

Good news

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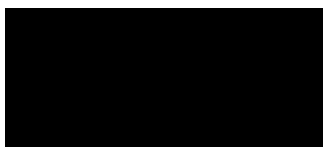
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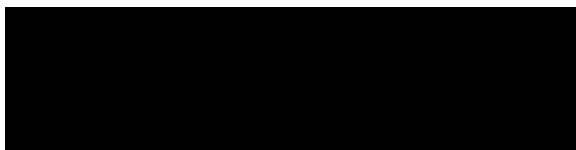
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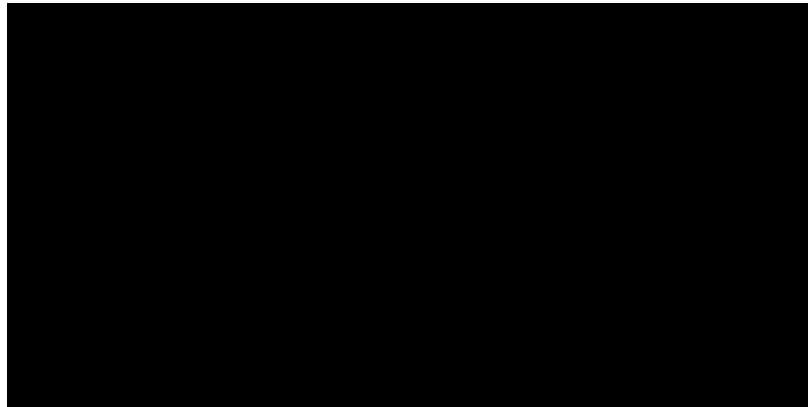
January 2 2017 - 6:00PM

Convention centre to attract large-scale events to Wagga

- **Nicolas Jungfer**



Wagga's soon-to-be-built convention centre will open the floodgates for a host of major events to be held in Wagga, according to a local event organiser.



Regional Events Conference
over.

assessing on Wagga were

“It's really exciting and means we can attract big events that are on a whole different level to what we've had, all because we'll have the infrastructure in place to make bids for them,” she said.

“Wagga has been missing out without a doubt because we just didn't have a big enough facility in place.

“We're a huge regional hub but one of the things we've always been lacking is a convention centre.”

Ms King said it was not even possible to bid for most major events in the past.

“We do have some great venues here, but they're all very limited in terms of capacity,” she said.

“But now I think we'll be quite an attractive option for a lot of event and conference organisers.”

The move is also expected to provide a significant boost for the city's tourism.

Garden City Motor Inn relief manager John Reynolds-Smith said he expected the convention centre to be a boon for the city's hotels and motels.

"I don't believe Wagga is a traditional tourist destination, but it does so well with hosting and attracting events," he said.

"A convention centre would be bring more people here by really adding to that mix.

"I think Wagga really needs that."

The convention centre will double as the purpose-built Australian Clay Target Association (ACTA) headquarters, capable of seating 650 diners or 1200 conference-goers.

The deal was sealed after the state government put forward \$5.5 million for construction, with the other \$1.5 million coming from the ACTA.

