



OBA hibernating during Coronavirus pandemic

A message from Alex Green, CEO

25/3/2020

The Board and Staff of Outward Bound Australia ('OBA') firstly want to acknowledge the courage and determination of Australians impacted by the recent bushfires, and now by the coronavirus. These are tough times and it has been encouraging to see community response echo the values of OBA: Human Potential, Integrity, Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion and Service.

Whilst OBA has had no incidence of coronavirus amongst staff or program participants; the impact of the pandemic is significant.

The coronavirus, and measures to slow its spread, have resulted in the cancellation of OBA programs for the next few months.

In order for OBA to be able to change lives into the future, we are currently winding down the business and reducing staffing to a minimum to enable hibernation through this crisis. The intent is that once the pandemic and its impacts are over, OBA will be relaunched at the earliest opportunity and can recommence delivering life changing outdoor adventure learning.

The Board acknowledges the commitment by its staff before and during this crisis and it is with a heavy heart that the organization will be saying goodbye to many wonderful staff members. We also recognize the impact of the crisis on our partners. We are all doing it tough in some way.

After this week, OBA will operate a Hibernation Team to steward the organisation through the crisis and prepare for relaunch at the appropriate time.

For our clients, the Hibernation Team will contact you regarding cancellations and future program delivery plans. It is too early to confirm any details. We recognize that you will want clarity on the future, but we simply cannot predict when program delivery will be possible, so cannot make commitments at this time. Thank you for your understanding. Please communicate through accounts@outwardbound.org.au regarding your situation.

For the public, mailbox@outwardbound.org.au is the best place to direct any enquiries.

An FAQ document will be posted on our website later today.

Thank you and our best wishes.

Alex Green

CEO

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