



# Joint News Release

**Sharon Bird MP**

Federal Member for Cunningham

**Jennie George MP**

Federal Member for Throsby

**David Campbell MP**

NSW Minister for the Illawarra  
State Member for Keira

## New era for Regional Development Australia – Illawarra

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Eddy de Gabriele and Mr Roger Summerill as Chair and Deputy Chair of Regional Development Australia – Illawarra.

Regional Development Australia – Illawarra is one of 14 RDA committees across New South Wales.

RDA Illawarra is a partnership between the Commonwealth and New South Wales Governments to deliver economic development, increase business opportunities, expand markets, to secure and create jobs in the local economy.

Eddy De Gabriele and Roger Summerill are outstanding members of the business and local community and have been selected after an extensive expression of interest process to lead RDA Illawarra into a new era.

RDA Illawarra will cover the core local government areas of Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama.

The role of RDA Illawarra includes:

- Providing advice to the Commonwealth and New South Wales Governments on regional issues
- Providing strategic input into Commonwealth and New South Wales Government programmes and initiatives
- Helping co-ordinate regional planning and regional development initiatives, and

- Establishing links and co-operative alliances by closely working with the business, trade union and community sectors; other RDA committees and local governments.

Membership of the RDA Illawarra Committee will be determined shortly.

We look forward to working closely with Mr de Gabriele and Mr Summerill to progress a series of initiatives to address the Illawarra's economic and regional challenges facing our community.

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30 June 2009