

Media Release



Timber Communities Australia Ltd

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TCA repeats calls for a National Bushfire Summit.

Timber Communities Australia (TCA) CEO Jim Adams today again called on the Federal Government to convene a National Bushfire Summit in the wake of the tragic Victorian Bushfires.

“With this years “fire season” approaching TCA members across Australia are hoping that no part of Australia will experience a repeat of last years tragic Black Saturday bushfires” Mr. Adams said today.

“It has long been known and reinforced through the recommendations of every prior bushfire enquiry including the Stretton Royal Commission after the 1939 Victorian bushfires, that of the factors that influence the ignition and intensity of a bushfire the only one which can be managed is the fuel load and that this is far more effectively done in advance of a fire than during the event” Mr. Adams said.

“Despite this we have continued to witness the systematic failure of governments to resource and audit proper fuel management practices across all land tenures”.

“This failure is simply a matter of governments having the political will to properly fund fuel management programs and could be rectified with proper coordination, resource allocation, and political commitment”, Mr. Adams went on to say.

“All of the fire suppression capacity (tankers, helicopters, etc) in the country is not enough to control a bushfire in extreme conditions if adequate fuel management has not been conducted in advance, even then you may be not be able to control a fire in such conditions but you may at least have a better chance of saving peoples assets, communities and lives”.

“TCA again strongly supports calls for a National Bushfire Summit” Mr. Adams concluded.

ENDS

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