

NEWS RELEASE

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Conference to examine future of South West region

What is former Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett's vision for a prosperous and vibrant South West region?

Find out by attending the Critical Horizons Regional Futures Conference next week on Wednesday June 2 and Thursday June 3.

Mr Kennett is one of the speakers lined up for the South West Development Commission-organised event being held at Bunbury's Edith Cowan University.

He will be joined at the conference by 14 other experts in their fields including Melbourne-based futurist and strategist Dr Peter Ellyard and former Governor of Western Australia, Lieutenant General John Sanderson.

The conference is the latest in the Critical Horizons series, which has been designed to examine emerging global trends and how they might affect regional communities in the South West.

Past seminars have been popular with planners and decision-makers and have included renewable energy, carbon futures and US-Australia relations as themes.

South West Development Commission chief executive officer Don Punch said the upcoming Critical Horizons Regional Futures Conference aimed to stimulate debate about the future of the South West region.

"From a vision for a prosperous and vibrant South West region, to a presentation on new dimensions in energy production, the event should prove thought-provoking," he said.

"Even if you don't agree with the opinions of all the speakers, the conference will give those who attend an opportunity to listen to all sides of the debate and form their own views on the future of the region."

The conference will be held at Bunbury's Edith Cowan University and include morning tea, afternoon tea and lunch sessions. A dinner will also be held at Barbados on Wednesday June 2.

People can register for the event by visiting www.criticalhorizons.com.au or phoning Alan Cross on 9792 2000.

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