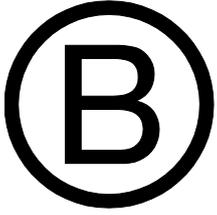


**Certified**



**Corporation**

## HARWOOD ANDREWS – FIRST BALLARAT BUSINESS TO BECOME A CERTIFIED B CORP

**Employees, the local community and the environment are set to benefit following Ballarat law firm, Harwood Andrews' certification as a B Corporation.**

Harwood Andrews joins businesses such as well-known adventure apparel brand Patagonia, thriving online marketplace Etsy and ice-cream company Ben & Jerry's to be awarded with the certification.

B Corp certification is issued to businesses by B Lab, a not-for-profit organisation that works to give the tick of approval to businesses who meet high standards of social and environmental performance, accountability and transparency.

In order to be awarded and maintain the certification, a business must pass a rigorous assessment that measures a business' impact on its workers, its community and the environment.

Harwood Andrews which has offices in Ballarat, Geelong, Bendigo and Melbourne is the first Ballarat business to be certified as a B Corp, and just one of 55 in Australia to do so.

Managing Principal of Harwood Andrews, Dan Simmonds said the year-long process of achieving B Corp certification was a great opportunity for the firm to evaluate the impact of its operations.

*"In becoming a B Corp we hope to continue to improve our impact on our communities and the environment, and inspire other businesses to do the same.*

Mr Simmonds said that doing right by employees, the environment and the community did not need to come at the expense of profits.

"Doing good is good business. The feedback and inquiry we have received so far has been overwhelmingly positive," he said.

*"Certified B Corps recognise that good business is about more than just profits it's also about creating value for all stakeholders, including employees, customers and the wider community,"* said Mr Simmonds.

The B Corp movement began in the United States in 2007, and following its official launch in Australia last year, it is gaining momentum.

A growing community of over 1,200 Certified B Corps from more than 38 countries and 121 industries are working together towards one unifying goal: to redefine success in business.

**For further information please contact:**

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