



Merry Christmas & all that jazz!

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and to thank you for your continued engagement with us throughout 2025.

Whether you attended or presented at one of our business events and workshops, applied for a Facade or Small Business Grant, accessed our support programs such as the Mentor Program, or simply enjoyed reading this eNewsletter each month, your support has been invaluable.

Our mission is to provide guidance, inspiration, and practical support to you, our Frankston City business community, so your business can thrive and help strengthen our local economy.

We'll be taking a short break from this eNews, with the next edition arriving in February. In the meantime, we look forward to collaborating with you and continuing to support your success in 2026.

If you have any questions about the content below, please contact the Economic Development Team at business@frankston.vic.gov.au.

BUSINESS NEWS



Grant recipients announced!

We are thrilled to announce we have awarded \$200,000 in grants to 22 local businesses through our 2025–26 Frankston City Small Business Grants

Program!

From creative hubs and specialty food manufacturing to sustainable products and hospitality ventures, these projects will create new jobs and strengthen our local economy.

Since the program began in 2012, Council has supported over 126 businesses, contributed to the creation 760 direct jobs, and contributed \$470 million to the local economy.

This round we had more than 70 submissions, with Stage 2 applicants being assessed by an independent panel. Thank you to all applicants, we truly appreciate the time and effort you put into applying.

To see who the 22 successful businesses are, visit frankston.vic.gov.au/businessgrants or follow @frankstoncity on social media.

See who the successful recipients are!



New Workshop

Launch Your Business with Confidence

Have a great business idea but not sure where to start? Join our “Steps in Launching Your New Business” workshop and gain the tools to turn your vision into reality.

In this three-hour session, you’ll learn how to:

- Conduct market research
- Choose the right structure
- Understand compliance and tax obligations
- Create a strategic business plan
- Set up branding, systems, and marketing

Perfect for aspiring entrepreneurs and new business owners looking to refine their plans. Spaces are limited. Reserve your spot today and start your business journey!

Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 | 9:30am – 12:30pm

Venue: Frankston Library – Community Room (Level 2)

Cost: FREE

Register now!



Entrepreneur Program Kicks Off

Our new Frankston City Entrepreneur Program 2025-26 kicked off on 4 December with 14 participants enrolled in the program.

The Entrepreneur Program is designed to help local individuals turn great ideas into thriving businesses. Whether they are developing a concept, preparing to launch, or have started within the past year, this program offers tailored training, expert mentoring, and the chance to pitch a business idea to an expert panel. At an awards ceremony at the end of the program, successful participants will receive a grant of \$10,000 to help start or grow their venture and help boost their new business or business idea.

We look forward to working with our entrepreneurs and supporting them with the development of their new business / project ideas in the new year.

Stay tuned in the February edition for more updates.

[Find out more here](#)



Builders & Trades Workshop Series wraps up

From September to December, we hosted four workshops at Cheeky Squire, Frankston, with 30 local building and trades business owners. Guest speaker Terence Toh from Building Profit shared insights on cash flow, client attraction, job conversion, profit upgrades, and time management. It was a fantastic course with participants reporting they learnt key information to help their business grow and enjoyed the networking.

Attendees also learned about upcoming events: **the Builders & Trades Q&A Forum on 19 February 2026** and **the Builders & Trades Conference on 1 May 2026**. Stay tuned for registration details opening in January 2026. Thank you to all of the builders and trades that attended and thank you to Terence Toh for delivering this insightful program.

I am interested in future events for builders and trades



Local Biz Named in the 2025 TechPartner.News Fast50

Congratulations to Extreme Networks Pty Ltd in Carrum Downs for being recognised as one of Australia's fastest-growing IT companies, earning a place in the 2025 TechPartner.News Fast50. The TechPartner.News Fast50 recognises Australian ICT partners based on year-on-year revenue growth and profitability, with companies grouped into revenue brackets so businesses of different sizes can be compared fairly.

This annual ranking celebrates the top-performing ICT partners nationwide, Extreme Networks owner James Eling said "we're honoured to be included among such an outstanding group of innovators." Well done guys!

[Read more](#)



Local business milestones!

Our business community is always championing milestones and achievements throughout the city. From new openings and awards to birthdays and anniversaries, Frankston City has a lot to celebrate! Congratulations to the following local businesses on their recent news;

* **Nepean Dance**: Nepean Dance has opened its new purpose-built studios at 6B Hi-Tech Place, Seaford, featuring two fully equipped spaces and a welcoming lounge for families.

* **Bounce**: Opening in 2026 at Bayside Shopping Centre (top floor, previously Myer), Bounce is the ultimate adrenalin playground for all - including staff parties and team building!

* **Zambrero**: Opening early next year at 499 Nepean Highway, Frankston, Zambrero offers Mexican inspired cuisine such as burritos, nachos, quesadillas and burrito bowls.

* **Saxon Sports**: A group of four locals have now taken over ownership of Saxon Sports in Frankston, 4/4 New Street, Frankston. Check out their Summer Holiday program which includes a cricket clinic, youth spots, soccer skills clinic and tournament and the Shane Savage Aussie Rules Clinic.

* **105 Deg Korean BBQ**: Opening on Station Street, Frankston, this month, bringing flavours of traditional Korean cuisine to Frankston's CBD.

* **Tendernest Fried Chicken**: Opening at Shop 1, 41-45 McMahon's Road, Frankston on 20 December, Tendernest Fried Chicken delivers Nashville inspired flavours, all made in-house.

* **Indian Mahal**: Opened 6 December at 31 Armstrongs Road in Seaford, Indian Mahal's authentic Indian cuisine brings spices and flavours straight from India.

* **Twinz Kiosk**: The girls at Twinz Kiosk have created an inviting space at the Frankston Life Saving Club Inc. serving barista made coffee, classic, strawberry or white choc matcha, delicious home-made energy drinks, snacks and ice creams.

Email us with your business' news!



Christmas Decorations

Thanks to the incredible support of local businesses and Council teams, including Rusty Sculptures, Streamline Energy, Pyper Cranes, Lonestar Foundations, The Tree Doctor, and our amazing operations crew, we've delivered decorations that spread joy across the city.

From Geoffrey the Gingerbread Person on Young Street (station side) to beautifully crafted Christmas trees at Seaford Library, Young Street, and the Civic Centre, every detail reflects months of planning and creativity. Don't miss the new and iconic JOY sign lighting up McCombs Reserve!

Take a stroll, snap a photo, and celebrate the season with us because Christmas in Frankston City is truly something special.

Tell us what you think!



Vacant Shops News

Council will take another next step in driving local economic renewal, proposing a consultation take place in a new differential rate on long-term vacant retail properties to reduce chronic vacancies and encourage active redevelopment across key commercial precincts.

The proposed measure will form part of our Rating and Revenue Plan and reinforces Council's commitment to improving activation, encouraging investment and reducing long-term vacancies in key commercial precincts, particularly in strategic nodes of the city centre and along the Nepean Highway where some of the city's most persistent land banking has occurred.

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Stay Connected with Imagine Frankston

Want to keep up with the latest developments shaping our city? Follow Imagine Frankston on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok for real-time updates on new investments, exciting projects, and general business news. Our social channels are your go-to source for insights into growth opportunities, upcoming developments, and stories that showcase Frankston's vibrant future. Don't miss out on the chance to stay informed and engaged with what's happening in our business community. Join the conversation today and be part of Frankston's transformation! Follow us now and stay ahead.

[Check out Imagine on Instagram](#)



Free Mentoring with Business Victoria

Are you ready to strengthen your business skills and plan for growth? Business Victoria's Business Skills Mentoring Program offers eligible Victorian small businesses up to three one-hour sessions with a professional business adviser at no cost. These sessions provide practical advice to help you clarify goals, overcome challenges, and build capability for success in 2026 and beyond. Check program eligibility and submit your expression of interest today. For full details, visit the Business Victoria website below. Don't miss this opportunity to access expert guidance and take your business to the next level!

[Find out more](#)



Think local this Christmas

Check out the reel on Imagine Frankston featuring some of our awesome small businesses! This reel is all about encouraging the community to shop local this Christmas. Whether you are buying a treat for your dog, plant for mum, a guitar for dad, getting your windows cleaned before Christmas lunch or looking for a place for your break up party, Frankston City has everything you need.

Why shop local?

- Up to 70% of every dollar stays in the community
- Supports local jobs & services
- Builds a stronger, greener Frankston
- Creates unique character

Compare that to big chains or online shopping where most of your money leaves the region. Every local purchase makes a BIG difference!

Explore 400+ listings in the Frankston City Business Directory to find what you are looking for locally and add your business before Christmas to benefit from the free advertising!

[Check out the Business Directory](#)



Vic Small Business Commission

Starting, running and growing a small business can be an incredibly rewarding experience, though there can be challenges along the way. The Victorian Small Business Commission offers support and information so you

can grow your knowledge and make sure you understand your rights and responsibilities.

From supporting business through infrastructure disruption, selling or keeping your business to getting paid on time and looking after your mental health, the VSBC is there to guide you and your business.

 **Economic Development**

Are you a new or existing Frankston City business or interested in becoming one?

Get all your business support needs, including FREE mentoring, grants resources and opportunities right here!

