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President Glenn McFadzean

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Marysville celebrates opening of new community centre

Marysville Triangle residents celebrated on Saturday, the official opening of the \$9.2 million Marysville Community Centre.

In Marysville, representing the Deputy Premier and Minister for Bushfire Response Peter Ryan, Minister for Sport and Recreation Hugh Delahunty joined Australia's Governor General, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce AC CVO, as she declared the new facility in Falls Road open.

"Today is a day of celebration for the people of Marysville and another step forward in the long process to recover and rebuild after the 2009 fires," Mr Delahunty said. "Since the fires, affected communities have put an enormous effort into their recovery and their plans for the future – the Marysville Community Centre is a wonderful example of that." The Centre provides a publicly accessible community space to replace a number of meeting places destroyed in the 2009 fires. It houses a multi-purpose community meeting

space, community group office, indoor recreation centre, community health service and doctor's rooms.



The upstairs multi-use community space is equipped with kitchen facilities, opening out on to a balcony with views over the oval. The downstairs level provides a flexible space for recreation activities, events and indoor sports.

Consulting rooms for community health services and treatment rooms for the local doctor have also been provided.

The new community facilities were made possible by the generous donations from the public following the fires, with the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund contributing \$5.28 million towards the centre, and complemented by funding from the state and federal governments, as well as significant contributions from private donors.

Photo: Her Excellency Quentin Bryce chats with children who had made a presentation to her. Her Excellency was extremely generous, spending time chatting with many of

New multi-million dollar visitor centre opened at Lake Mountain

Deputy Premier and Minister for Bushfire Response Peter Ryan joined more than 100 kids and their families from the Kids With Cancer Foundation to officially open the new Lake Mountain Alpine Resort Visitor Centre near Marysville and launch the resort's new summer activities program.

Mr Ryan said the completion of improvements at the resort represented a significant step forward as the region continued to recover from the 2009 bushfires.

"The resort's management board has done a magnificent job in getting this project off the ground and seeing it through to completion," Mr Ryan said.

"The rebuilding works include an enhanced visitor building and public shelter, new gateway entry, improvements to walking tracks and lookouts and new snow-making system."

Mr Ryan said the improved facilities and exciting summer and winter programs at the resort

would help restore Lake Mountain as one of the state's top tourism destinations.

"Prior to the 2009 bushfires Lake Mountain attracted up to 150,000 visitors to the region each year, which is why so much effort has gone into restoring and upgrading the venue," Mr Ryan said.

During his visit Mr Ryan launched the new Lake Mountain Summer Program which is expected to significantly boost visitor numbers over the holiday period.

"The new summer program includes adventure activities such as mountain and quad biking, flying foxes and laser skirmish," Mr Ryan said.

"The resort is now truly a year-round destination that will drive significant economic activity in Marysville and surrounding communities."

Mr Ryan said the Victorian Coalition Government had provided \$200,000

towards the development of the summer program from the \$5.2 million Marysville Economic Recovery Package.

The Victorian Government has contributed more than \$15 million towards re-establishing the Lake Mountain Alpine Resort since the 2009 bushfires.

Pictured with the Hon Peter Ryan MP are Sam Kekovich Guest Speaker, Ralph Booth Lake Mtn Chairman and Geoff 'Coxy' Cox MC.

