

Barton Deakin Brief: Commonwealth Ministry Reshuffle

18 January 2017

Today, the Prime Minister the Hon Malcom Turnbull, announced changes to the Commonwealth Ministry following the resignation of Health Minister the Hon Sussan Ley MP on 13 January.

- The Hon Greg Hunt MP has been appointed Minister for Health and Minister for Sport
- Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos will take over as Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science
- The Hon Ken Wyatt MP has been promoted to Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health
- Michael Sukkar MP has been promoted to Assistant Minister to the Treasurer
- Special Minister of State, Senator Scott Ryan, has been appointed *Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Cabinet*
- Assistant Minister for Rural Health, Dr. David Gillespie MP, has been appointed *Assistant Minister for Health*.
- The role of Cabinet Secretary will return to the Prime Minister's Office, reducing the size of Cabinet by one.
- The new Ministers will be sworn in by the Governor General in Canberra on Tuesday 24 January.

Minister for Health and Sport - The Hon Greg Hunt, MP

The Hon Greg Hunt MP has been appointed as the new Minister for Health and Sport. Greg Hunt was first elected as the Federal Member for Flinders in 2001, and became Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage and then Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs as a young Member in the Howard Government. He was Shadow Minister in the Environment portfolio between 2007 and 2013, and was Minister for the Environment between September 2013 and July 2016. Greg was appointed Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science in July 2016.

Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science - Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos AO

Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos AO will take over as the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science. Senator Sinodinos entered the Australian Senate in October 2011 representing NSW. He was appointed Shadow Parliamentary Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition in September 2012, a position he held until the election of the Abbott Government. He served as Assistant Treasurer in the Abbott Government from September 2013 before standing aside in March 2014 and formally resigning in December 2014. He was sworn in as the Cabinet Secretary in the Turnbull Government Ministry on 21 September 2015. Prior to entering Parliament Senator Sinodinos held significant roles in the Commonwealth Treasury and as Chief of Staff to Prime Minister John Howard.

Minister for Aged Care and Indigenous Health - Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP



The Hon Ken Wyatt MP, who has been the Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care has been promoted into the Ministry as the Minister for Aged Care and Indigenous Health. Ken Wyatt was elected in 2010 as the Federal Member for Hasluck, an electorate South East of Perth, making history as the first Indigenous Member of the House of Representatives. Before entering politics Ken worked in community roles in the fields of health and education including the District Director for the Swan Education District, and Director of Aboriginal Health in Western Australia. He is the first Indigenous person appointed to a Commonwealth Ministry.

Assistant Ministerial Changes

Michael Sukkar MP has been promoted to *Assistant Minister to the Treasurer*. He was first elected as the Member for Deakin, a division in Melbourne's eastern suburbs, at the 2013 federal election and was re-elected in 2016. Prior to entering the Parliament, Michael worked as a Senior Consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers where he specialised in taxation. He also spent seven years practicing as a lawyer with Ashurst. He currently sits on two parliamentary committees, including being the Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security.

Special Minister of State, Victorian Senator Scott Ryan, will take on greater responsibility by supporting the work of the Cabinet as *Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Cabinet*.

Assistant Minister for Rural Health, Dr. David Gillespie MP, will serve in the portfolio as *Assistant Minister for Health*.

Further information

To view the media release from the Prime Minister, click [here](#).

To see the updated Ministry list, click [here](#).

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