## FOREWORD FROM THE MINISTER

The 2023 Solar Eclipse is an extraordinary and rare astronomical occurrence that represents a unique opportunity for Western Australia.

Tens of thousands of visitors are anticipated in the Gascoyne and Pilbara region to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime event.

Exmouth is the most accessible land destination in the world to experience the phenomenon that will take place alongside the wonders of the UNESCO World-Heritagelisted Ningaloo Marine Park.

Other communities in the region, including Carnarvon, Coral Bay and Onslow will experience a near Total Solar Eclipse with Perth experiencing a partial eclipse.

This event will attract people from around the globe to the region injecting millions of tourism and boosting local jobs.

It also presents an opportunity to promote the State's stargazing, astronomy and astrophotography offerings to the world.

This event will also help the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation activities to inspire young people's interest and uptake of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths studies and careers.

The WA Government has been investing significant funding and liaising closely with stakeholders to collaboratively manage the planning and logistics for the 2023 Solar Eclipse, so visitors to Western Australia and the community can enjoy a safe, sustainable and successful event.

## Hon. Roger Hugh Cook MLA BA; GradDipBus (PR); MBA

Deputy Premier; Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade; Hydrogen Industry; Tourism; Science