President’s Message

Water and sewerage will likely continue to be a lead story in the newsletter for months to come but it is important that we not only keep it top of mind but provide the most up-to-date information available.

At the recent Centre for Economic Development Australia (CEDA) forum, the Treasurer acknowledged that the consultation process to date was perhaps lacking and expressed an intention to meet with the General Management Committee of the Association on a regular basis. The first of these meetings will be held in the coming days and a full report will be provided at the 15 August General Meeting.

Each region is presently undertaking a body of work based on their specific concerns and issues, and investigating a variety of models and options. The regions are to be congratulated for this effort but it will be important, at a point in time, that each is aware of what the others are considering and proposing.

Each model is likely to address unique elements and different aspects but as we seek to find a model(s) that best suit our regional or statewide circumstance, it is imperative that we share the information and expertise.

One of the strengths of the Local Government sector lies in its capacity to accept differences, recognise innovations and strive for better community outcomes. LGAT will be endeavouring to coordinate and provide an opportunity for the regions to meet and further discuss the water and sewerage reforms.

As a sector, we must be prepared to offer a robust proposal, or counter proposal, that meets the future demands and needs of our collective communities and is able to operate within a rigorous regulatory environment while achieving appropriate standards of service and environmental outcomes.

New General Manager for Glamorgan Spring Bay

David Metcalf has been appointed to the role of General Manager for the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council. David has been employed as the West Coast Council’s General Manager since 2003 and will commence his new position on 24 September.

Last Chance to Register for Pre-election Seminars

With less than a week to go before the commencement of a series of free, pre-election information seminars to be held around the state, the Local Government Association of Tasmania is encouraging people who are considering standing at the upcoming Local Government elections to register their attendance.

The seminars to be held in Burnie, Launceston and Hobart from the 7-9 August have been coordinated by the Local Government Association of Tasmania in conjunction with the Local Government Office and the Tasmanian Electoral Commission. Details are as follows:

- **Burnie** 7 August
  5.30pm - 7.30pm
  Bayview Restaurant and Lounge Bar
  1st floor North Terrace, West Beach

- **Launceston** 8 August
  5.30pm - 7.30pm
  Country Club Resort
  Prospect

- **Hobart** 9 August
  5.30pm - 7.30pm
  Mercure Hotel
  156 Bathurst Street

The workshops provide a valuable opportunity for potential candidates to receive information about community expectations and the roles and responsibilities of becoming an elected member. Participants will also have the opportunity to ask Local Government members and staff questions about the election process and issues of concern.

To reserve a seat, or for enquiries about becoming an elected member, please contact the Local Government Association of Tasmania on 6233 5966 or email admin@lgat.tas.gov.au.

IAP2 Australasia Core Values Awards

The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) welcomes entries for the IAP2 Australasia Core Values Awards. The awards recognise excellence and innovation in the field of public participation.

Submissions must be received by 10 August. The awards will be presented at Symposium IAP2 to be held from 6-7 September in Melbourne. For more information, go to www.iap2.org.au.
The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
A new CD aimed at designers, builders, building certifiers, access consultants and advocates has been produced by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. The Good the Bad and the Ugly looks at common mistakes made in applying the Building Code of Australia in areas such as handrails on stairs, use of Tactile Ground Surface Indicators, signage, visual indicators on glazing and kerb rails on ramps. For a free copy, contact publications@humanrights.gov.au or telephone 1300 369 711.

International Public Works Conference 2007
The 14th IPWEA International Public Works Conference will be held from 26-30 August in Cairns. Opening keynote speaker, Don Henry of the Australian Conservation Foundation will look at Solutions to Climate Change: Challenges & Opportunities for Public Works. For more information, phone (07) 4032 4618 or go to www.passion8.com.au/IPWEA/.

Environs Australia 2007 Sustainability Awards
Councils have until 15 August to nominate for the Environs Australia 2007 Sustainability Awards. For details, go to www.environs.org.au. The award winners will be announced at the 2007 Local Government Sustainable Development Conference to be held from 11-12 September in Melbourne.

Plant and Vehicle Management Seminar
The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia will be conducting a one-day plant and vehicle management seminar in Hobart. Topics include future vehicle safety systems, servicing requirements, environmental initiatives and new technology in oils. To register, please visit www.ipwea.org.au.

Community Achievement Awards
Entries are invited for the inaugural Community Achievement Awards which highlight and reward the valuable contribution of outstanding, inspirational and high achieving individuals, businesses, disabled achievers, environmental groups, community groups and others who are contributing towards building stronger local communities and a more vibrant state. Nominations close on 24 August. Entry forms are available from www.awardsaustralia.com.

Developing Negotiation and Influencing Capability
Would you like the tools to strategically influence others and successfully negotiate the outcomes you want? The Training Consortium is running an intensive two-day workshop in Developing Negotiation and Influencing Capability for senior staff, project managers, leaders and team managers from 22-23 August in Hobart. An advanced workshop will follow on 24 August. For more information please email ttc@dpac.tas.gov.au or call (03) 6233 6459.

Community Housing Mapping Project
The 2005-06 Community Housing Mapping Project was recently launched by the Community Housing Federation of Australia to provide up-to-date information relating to the community housing sector. Details can be found at www.chfa.com.au.

Special Broadband Offer for Local Government Employees
Bigpond invites Local Government employees to take advantage of a special deal to switch to a 24-month BigPond Broadband ADSL monthly plan. The package includes 3 months free access, a free standard modem, no connection fee and 20% discount on access for the remaining term. BigPond Broadband offers faster speeds and reliable, technical support, seven days a week. To take up this offer, call 1800 220 032, quote your company name and the offer code 2797.

Designing for Bicycle Riders and Pedestrians
Planners, engineers, architects and designers involved in planning and designing facilities for cyclists and pedestrians are encouraged to attend a one-day training course on designing for bicycle riders and pedestrians. The course will be held in Wollongong on 7 August, Newcastle on 21 August, and in Sydney on 28 August 2007. For enquiries, phone (02) 9526 5088 or visit www.urbanarc.com.au/sites/courses.html.

Keep Australia Beautiful Week (27 August - 2 September)
Help tackle Australia’s rising greenhouse gas emissions and electronic waste challenges by coordinating one or more Keep Australia Beautiful Week activities in your community. Suggested activities include organising a local mobile muster, a litter-free challenge, a printer cartridge recycling program, or light bulb replacement initiative. For further information, visit www.kab.org.au/kabweek.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upcoming Events</th>
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<td>Pre-election Workshop, Burnie</td>
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<td>Pre-election Workshop, Hobart</td>
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<td>ALGWA Pre-election Workshop, Devonport</td>
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<td>General Meeting, Launceston</td>
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<td>Pre-election Seminar, Currie, King Island</td>
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<td>Pre-election Seminar, Whitemark, Flinders Island</td>
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