



## MEDIA RELEASE – MINISTER FOR WOMEN

Tasmanian women in local and state government and the community sector will come together on International Women's Day this year to celebrate excellence in leadership through a new awards program.

The Tasmanian Government, the Tasmanian Council of Social Service (TasCOSS) and the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) are partnering to host luncheons in Hobart and Devonport on 8 March 2019 to celebrate International Women's Day and to announce the award recipients in Hobart.

Nominations are open until 11 February for the six categories of the inaugural 2019 Tasplan International Women's Day Awards for Excellence:

1. Local Government: Inspirational Leader - Elected representative
2. Local Government: Inspirational Leader - Officer
3. State Service: Inspirational Leader
4. State Service: Aspiring Leader
5. Community Sector: Inspirational Leader
6. Community Sector: Aspiring Leader

Tasmania's Minister for Women, Jacque Petrusma said: "International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The International Women's Day theme for 2019 is 'Balance for Better', as we create a better world by having better balance – and that includes gender equity."

"The luncheons also have the theme of 'Turning It Around' because the Tasmanian Government and our two partner organisations are committed to achieving gender equity, including supporting and recognising women in their leadership aspirations.

"The Tasmanian Government is committed to creating a more inclusive Tasmania that empowers and enables women and girls to fully participate in our economic, social, political and community life. Although there is good work being done, gender inequality remains and we must continue to address it. These Awards are a wonderful example of how government and the community sector can work together to celebrate the achievements of women and continue to improve gender equality."

LGAT President Doug Chipman said: "The Awards judging panel will be looking for individuals who have gone above and beyond their expected role to make a significant contribution to their employer, their community and/or their sector in Tasmania."

TasCOSS CEO Kym Goodes said: "There is a great spirit of collaboration between our three sectors and the Awards and luncheons are an opportunity to connect women across the State and celebrate the significant contribution they are making to progress in Tasmania."

Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania, and Kat Henry (NIDA Corporate) will be key speakers at the Hobart event. Devonport luncheon guests will hear from a panel of leaders including Tasmania Police Commander Debbie Williams, Education and Indigenous Ambassador, Katelyn Johnson, and Penelope Dodd, Founder of Produce to People.

Hobart luncheon bookings and nominate for the awards, see the [LGAT website](#).

Devonport luncheon bookings – see the [TTC website](#)

### Hobart

11.50am-2pm, Friday 8 March  
C3 Convention Centre, Hobart

### Devonport

12-1.45pm, Friday 8 March  
paranaple Centre, Devonport

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