

Media Release

Thursday 4 July 2018

Awards for Outstanding Commitment and Service to Local Government 2019

The Local Government Association of Tasmania congratulates the winners of the 2019 Local Government Awards for Outstanding Commitment and Service to Local Government.

The Awards for Outstanding Commitment and Service to Local Government were presented by LGAT President Mayor Christina Holmdahl at the dinner for the 107th LGAT Annual Conference.

“I am delighted to present the Awards for Outstanding Commitment and Service to Local Government. It is important we celebrate the achievements and contributions of those who have dedicated many years of their careers to serving local communities through their roles in Local Government” Mayor Christina Holmdahl said.

Awards for Outstanding Commitment and Service to Local Government were awarded to Ron Sanderson, General Manager of Brighton Council and Robin McKendrick, who up until last year had served an incredible 11 terms on City of Launceston Council.

Ron Sanderson, an engineer by profession, began his career in Tasmanian Local Government as Manager of Technical Services for the Circular Head Council in 1987. 1993 Ron moved to Brighton Council as Manager Engineering Services and quickly became Deputy General Manager. Ron was appointed General Manager in 2005.

During Ron Sanderson’s leadership as General Manager, the Brighton Municipality has experienced exponential growth, services to ratepayers and the community have expanded significantly, key innovations have been introduced, and the Council has been managed in a highly efficient and cost-effective manner. Ron has been a strong advocate for the Brighton Municipality to important stakeholders at local, state and national level.

Ron believes Local Government is a community and has always been willing to help another council or other individuals within the sector. He has fostered a positive and healthy work environment, where people are encouraged to try things, be creative and to learn. The low staff turnover at Brighton Council is testament to this supportive and flexible culture. Ron Sanderson, who is one of the longest serving



Council general managers in Tasmania, is recognised as a generous leader in Local Government and for community service in Tasmania.

Robin McKendrick was first elected City of Launceston Council in 1981. Robin was also Deputy Mayor for two years (from 1988 to 1990) and is one of the longest-serving Councillors in Tasmanian Local Government history with 37 years of continuous service to the community.

Robin has demonstrated a deep commitment to the people of Launceston, including 21 years on the Council's Economic Development Committee. He also played a key role in the development of UTAS Stadium and the surrounding Inveresk Precinct - including 18 years of service to the York Park and Inveresk Precinct Authority, where he was Chair for 12 years.

Robin's long list of achievements are impressive and his tireless work as an elected representative of the Launceston ratepayers is testament to his dedication to the municipality. During the 1980s and 90s, Robin was involved in over 23 committees and organisations while on Council, including the Community Youth Support Scheme, the Festivale Committee, the Launceston Community Health Centre Committee and the Northern Regional Library Advisory Board. Robin McKendrick is to be congratulated on 37 years of dedicated civic service to the people of Launceston.

Ends.

The Awards will be presented at the dinner for the 107th LGAT Annual Conference on Thursday 4 July.

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