



Media Release

Thursday 8 March 2018

Local Government celebrates International Women's Day with the launch of the *WomenCan Campaign*

Today the President of the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA), Alderman Deb Thurley and Mayor of City of Glenorchy Council Kristie Johnston launched the "WomenCan Campaign" encouraging more women to consider running for election to Local Government.

This year's International Women's Day theme #PressforProgress, is so relevant as the ALGWA WomenCan Campaign is about motivating friends, family, colleagues and communities to think, act and be gender inclusive, Tasmanian ALGWA President Alderman Deb Thurley said.

The WomenCan Campaign aims to raise awareness of the October 2018 Local Government elections. WomenCan encourages women to nominate, promote the benefits of women in leadership roles and further women's knowledge and understanding of the functions of Local Government.

We also seek to introduce mentors to potential candidates and to facilitate networking for like-minded women interested in participating in Local Government, explained Alderman Thurley.

Mayor Kristie Johnston, who joined Alderman Thurley to launch this year's WomenCan campaign said "I am delighted to be part of the launch of the WomenCan Campaign as there are many benefits women bring to leadership roles, particularly when it comes to contributing to their communities"

The launch of WomenCan was part of the Local Government Association of Tasmania's (LGAT) International Women's Day Breakfast, highlighting the achievements of women in Tasmanian Local Government with guest speaker the Hon. Pam Allen.

LGAT CEO Dr Katrena Stephenson said International Women's Day was an important event focusing on empowering women worldwide and celebrating their achievements.

"LGAT is proud to support ALGWA to launch the WomenCan Campaign on International Women's Day. Data on gender in Local Government in Tasmania tells us that 30% of Mayors and 28% of councillors are women and we would like to see these numbers grow significantly in the future".

Ends.

For further comments please contact:

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