

Awards sustain interest in maintaining environment

The ACT Sustainable Cities Awards for 2009 were launched yesterday at the Legislative Assembly. Now in their fifth year, the awards, run by Keep Australia Beautiful, promote the local environmental achievements of private, community, business and territory government participants.

The ACT Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment Maxine Cooper said Canberra was one of the most wasteful cities in the nation.

“Awards such as these actually help celebrate peoples’ efforts ... the fundamental behaviour change is going to come from individual members of the community. I think that is why it is really important that we do have awards such as these.”

Launching the competition, Environment Minister Simon Corbell said the contest highlighted best practice and helped reduce consumption of energy, waste and water.

“The ACT is really a leader in many important environmental initiatives ... [we are] well positioned and hopefully we’ll see a local winner go on to be



POSITIVE:
Judges’ chairman Rolfe Hartley says he’s received good support from the ACT Government.

considered as a national award winner.”

Awards will be given in nine categories, with the overall winner to attend the national event in October.

Entries are considered in community partnerships, environmental innovation, litter prevention, resource recovery, protection of the environment, water conservation, energy innovation, sustainable buildings and gardens and young legends.

Chairman of the judges Rolfe Hartley said sustainability was about making the best use of the resources we have.

“The understanding that’s coming through in schools of these issues is really contributing to the sort of footprint that Canberra leaves ... We are getting very good support from the ACT Government, particularly the coordination with the schools’ program is excellent,” Mr Hartley said.

Entries close on June 9 and winners will be announced on July 1. For more information about the awards or to enter go to www.kab.org.au/ACT

The Canberra Times is a sponsor of the ACT Sustainable Cities Awards.
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Update:
Entries
Close
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