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## MEDIA RELEASE

### HOBSONS BAY WINS VICTORIAS SUSTAINABLE CITIES AWARDS.

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria (KABV) today announced that Hobson Bay City Council has won the KABV Overall Sustainable Cities Award for 2009 held at Melbourne's RACV Club last night.

A finalist in the Energy Conservation Award and Zero Waste Award, Hobsons Bay went on to win the Community Pride Award, Heritage and Culture Award and the Young Leaders Award - taking out the Overall Sustainable City Award for overall outstanding achievement.

KABV Chairman, Max Spedding congratulated Hobsons Bay City Council and its supporters on their outstanding result.

"Hobsons Bay City Council has demonstrated its commitment and leadership in engaging the community and working towards creating a sustainable city. We congratulate them on winning the 2009 Overall Sustainable Cities Award."

With many outstanding and worthy entrants, the final decision was tough one for the judges.

Monash City Council, Kingston City Council, the Moonlit Sanctuary in the Casey Shire, Bayside City Council and Whittlesea Council all won individual category awards, with special commendations going to Hume City Council, Brimbank City Council, Melbourne Zoo and Friends of Toolern Creek in Melton.

But it was Hobsons Bay City Council who shone on the night and will now go on to represent Victoria in the National Australian Sustainable Cities Awards later this year.

Special guest, the Hon. Gavin Jennings, Minister for Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Innovation, attended and addressed the 250 guests, which included Anita Roper - CEO for Sustainability Victoria and SV representatives, KABV Board Members, Local Government representatives, Industry Sponsors, and the stars of the show, the Community Groups themselves.

And in celebration of its 40 year history, KABV treated its guests to a retrospective photographic exhibition in the foyer. An insightful, thought-provoking and often amusing look back over four decades of outstanding environmental action and social change in Victoria.

Gayle Seddon, Acting CEO of KABV said it was a fabulous evening of celebration.

"The awards were an evening of recognition as we celebrated the many stories of achievement, inspiration and dedication often from small community groups with big hearts, making big changes in their communities and putting the word 'sustainability' into practice."



## HOBSONS BAY'S AWARD WINNING ENTRIES:

- HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL – Winner of the Community Pride Award for 'The Substation'. One of Melbourne's oldest and largest substations built in 1915. Two local residents developed the idea of restoring and adapting the substation into a community arts facility, supported by the Hobsons Bay City Council, and established the association, Hobsons Bay Community Arts Centre. The restoration was a huge undertaking for a community organisation. Opened in November 2008, it now incorporates galleries, studios, workshops, performance space and café.
- HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL – Winner of the Heritage and Culture Award for the Seaworks maritime village. A place for visitors to explore Williamstown's rich maritime history. Visitors can witness the dying art of blacksmithing, visit the heritage listed 1880's shipping sheds and view a replica of the tallship 'Enterprise'.
- HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL – Winner of the Young Leaders Awards for Lloyd Knight. A 19 year old resident and active member of the Williamstown SLSC who was recently awarded the Hobsons Bay's 2009 Young Citizens of the Year award.
- HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL – Winner of the Overall Sustainable Cities Award for overall outstanding achievement and encapsulating the ideals of the awards.

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- HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL - finalist in the Zero Waste Award for the Summer Litter Blitz Program where Hobsons Bay City Council addressed the problem of cigarette butt litter and other litter issues in the area. The program consisted of benchmarking, promotion, education and evaluation.
- HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL - finalist in the Energy Conservation Award for their LESS light bulb replacement program

## ABOUT THE AWARDS:

The Sustainable Cities Awards recognise and celebrate local communities across metropolitan Melbourne taking action to protect, conserve and enhance their natural and built environments.

Gayle Seddon says she and the judges are constantly amazed by the high quality of the sustainability programs communities are conducting.

"These programs are all contributing to help make our cities better places to live and work. The Sustainable Cities Awards give us the opportunity to recognise, promote and celebrate their contributions."

The Sustainable Cities Awards are supported by principal sponsor, the 'Do the Right Thing' program of the Packaging Stewardship Forum with support from Grundfos Pumps, Cartridge World and Veolia Environmental Services.

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