



MEDIA RELEASE
Friday 10 October 2008

Frankston wins Australian Sustainable Cities national title for 2008

Frankston was announced the national winner of the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australian Sustainable Cities Awards, held in Sydney last night.

The Award recognises the City of Frankston for its commitment and investment in a wide range of environmental sustainability initiatives and its support of local community projects.

In addition to winning the overall title, Frankston also won the national Resource Recovery Award and was highly commended in the Water Conservation and Community Partnership categories. Carrum Downs Secondary College in Frankston took home the national Young Legends Award.

According to the Australian Sustainable Cities Judge, Sean Rooney, who is also Director of the CSIRO Sustainable Communities Initiative, Frankston's efforts deliver on all key principals behind the Sustainable Cities Awards.

"Frankston City Council has a long term vision when planning for a sustainable future. Its Frankston 2025 project in particular is the driving force for social, environmental and economic sustainability. Following extensive community consultation, it now guides Council's activities and decisions.

"Frankston has set targets and undertaken projects to reduce water usage by 45% over the next 10 years, whilst the diversion of waste from landfill is another key priority. A great example is the, 'If you don't eat it, your garden will – Halve Garbage Waste!' program, which has significantly reduced organic matter going into the waste stream. Weekly rubbish bin collections are now reduced to fortnightly for the 1,000 participating homes." Rooney added.

Frankston's Leon Costermans was honoured with the Dame Phyllis Frost Award, named after the founder of Keep Australia Beautiful, for his outstanding individual contribution to the environment and the community.

The awards were attended by The Hon Bruce Billson MP, Shadow Minister for Sustainable Development and Cities, who said:

"At a time when climate change, water conservation and waste reduction issues provide many challenges to local councils and communities, these awards help recognise and promote best practice case studies that can assist other urban communities to become more sustainable. Well done Frankston for leading the way."

Also attending the awards dinner was Keep Australia Beautiful Ambassador, Miss Universe Australia 2008, Laura Dundovic.

"Congratulations to Frankston on their win and to all of the participants for working to ensure the long term sustainability of their local community." Dundovic said.

The Australian Sustainable Cities Awards recognise efforts by residents, community groups, businesses and government agencies to protect and enhance their local environment to ensure its long term sustainability at all levels.

The program is sponsored by the Hungry Jack's 'Bag It & Bin It' program and is part of the Keep Australia Beautiful 'Australian Sustainable Communities' Awards, which also includes the Australian Tidy Towns and Australian Clean Beaches Awards.

Further information about the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards can be found at www.kab.org.au

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Keep Australia Beautiful Australian Sustainable Cities Awards Recipients 2008

Category	Winner	Sponsor
Overall Winner	Frankston City Council, VIC	Principal Sponsor Hungry Jack's @ 'Bag it and Bin it'
Community Action	Magnetic Island Solar Suburb, QLD	Auburn Council
Heritage and Culture	Devonport City Council, TAS	
Environmental Innovation	City of Gosnells, WA	
Water Conservation	City of Salisbury, SA	Grundfos Pumps
Energy Innovation	Alice Solar City, NT	
Litter Prevention	City of Sydney, NSW	City of Sydney
Resource Recovery	Frankston City Council, VIC	'Do the Right Thing' program of the Packaging Stewardship Forum
Community Partnership	TravelSmart Belconnen, ACT	ICTC Society
Protection Of The Environment	City of Salisbury, SA	
Young Legends	Carrum Downs Secondary College, Frankston, VIC	
Dame Phyllis Frost Award		
Winning Individual	Leon Costermans, Frankston, VIC	
Winning Organisation	City of Sydney, NSW	

Full details for each entrant in the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards 2008 can be found at www.kab.org.au/sustainablecities