



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**Ipswich, QLD, wins Environmental Innovation & Protection  
Award at the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards 2009**

The Ipswich City Council has won the Environmental Innovation & Protection category award at the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australian Sustainable Cities Awards.

The winners were announced by Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector, Senator the Hon Ursula Stephens, and Keep Australia Beautiful National Chairman, Don Chambers at Parliament House in Canberra last night.

According to the Australian Sustainable Cities Judge, Sean Rooney, who is also the Sustainability Program Manager at Sinclair Knight Merz - sponsor of the Environmental Innovation award – Ipswich Council's approach to environmental management is both comprehensive and effective, earning them a UN World Environment Day Award last year for excellence in environmental management.

"Their approach combines planning, community engagement, education, and on-ground action with notable projects including their Land Acquisition Program, which sees high conservation value land holdings being purchased by Council and managed for their long term preservation."

"Their local River Heart redevelopment has created a beautiful community public space and provides interpretation of local natural and cultural heritage, whilst the recently opened Ipswich Environment Education Centre provides a dedicated community resource to educate and provide advice on local environmental issues and programs."

"Each of these initiatives helps generate widespread awareness and action within the local community", Rooney added.

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 Awards are sponsored by Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do the Right Thing' program; Grundfos Pumps; Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM) and ToysRUs.

The overall Australian Sustainable Cities 2009 winner was City of Canada Bay, NSW.

Further information about the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards can be found at [www.kab.org.au](http://www.kab.org.au)

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## Keep Australia Beautiful Australian Sustainable Cities Awards Recipients 2009

<b>Category</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
<b>Overall Winner</b>	<b>Canada Bay, NSW</b>	
<b>Community Action &amp; Partnerships</b>	<b>Winner - Hobsons Bay, VIC</b> Highly commended - Palmerston, NT	
<b>'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention</b>	<b>Canada Bay, NSW</b>	
<b>Resource Recovery &amp; Waste Management</b>	<b>Port Adelaide Enfield, SA</b> Highly commended: OzHarvest, ACT	Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do the Right Thing' program
<b>Environmental Innovation &amp; Protection</b>	<b>Winner - Ipswich, QLD</b> Highly commended - BRRAG, WA	Sinclair Knight Merz
<b>Water Conservation</b>	<b>Canada Bay, NSW</b>	Grundfos Pumps
<b>Heritage &amp; Culture</b>	<b>Launceston, TAS</b>	
<b>Young Legends</b>	<b>Port Adelaide Enfield, SA</b>	Toys R Us
<b>Energy Innovation</b>	<b>Canada Bay, NSW</b>	

Full details for each entrant can be found at  
<http://www.kab.org.au/programs/sustainable-cities/>

### **About the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards**

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. It does this through research, communications programs and awards programs.

Its national awards are known as the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards which consist of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards. Each awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national grand final.