



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **TCCI/Colony 47 - MoU between Colony 47 and the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Two of Tasmania's highest profile organisations have today signed a memorandum of understanding which will see them work closely together to tackle some of the community's biggest challenges.

Representatives from the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Colony 47 today signed the memorandum in Hobart.

TCCI CEO Michael Bailey said it was important for business to take a strong leadership role in the community.

"COVID has shown just how important it is for the community to work together," Mr Bailey said.

"It's really important for the TCCI to build strong relationships with the community sector. This MoU is about identifying the main areas that both the TCCI and Colony 47 are concerned about and working together to identify solutions.

"The issues we've identified in the MoU, such as transport and housing, aren't just social problems they have huge impacts on businesses and the economy too. Even small gains in these areas will result in really positive outcomes for the community and also the business sector."

Colony 47 CEO, Danny Sutton, said Colony 47 is a large business in its own right with a turnover of over \$16 million and over 120 staff.

"Like other Tasmanian businesses of our size we have marketing and communications, operational service delivery, finance, human

**Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

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resources and ICT teams who are all providing services that are similar functions to many other business in the community," Mr Sutton said.

"The ability to connect and share our expertise and experience with other Tasmanian businesses provides a genuine opportunity for creating new economic and social solutions to shared community challenges.

"It makes sense for us to be a member of the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a Tasmanian owned and operated business and in recent years we have started to see how our work with industry can directly supports economic as well as social outcomes.

"In the past year, for instance, we have placed over 200 young Tasmanians into employment and training opportunities with Tasmanian businesses and we provided a significant number of local job opportunities for local people through the innovative South East Employment Hub service.

"Colony 47 sees itself as being socially and economically entrepreneurial in our approach and through this MoU we're looking to capitalise on that by working with the TCCI," Mr Sutton said.

"The impacts of COVID are wide-reaching and will be long-lasting, but collaborations like this will make a real difference to many in the community.

"We've identified a number of areas such as housing, employment and transport that need immediate attention. If we can make even modest gains in any of these areas it's going to have a really positive impact on the community. It's also going to support local business and boost our economy. It's a win-win and we're really grateful to the TCCI for partnering with us."

Mr Sutton and Mr Bailey said that the MoU will mean closer collaboration and a joint focus on the issues identified in the MoU and that the main aim was to see the Tasmanian community and Tasmanian businesses reach their full potential.

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