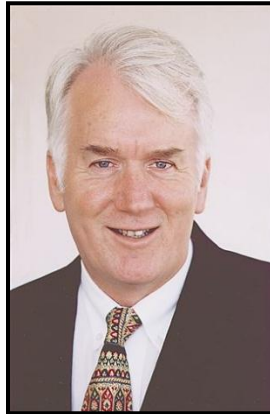


DAMON THOMAS



'Working to make Hobart the way it should be. Easy to live, easy to do business'

Media Release
Monday June 15, 2009

THE former head of the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, State Crown Solicitor and Tasmanian Ombudsman, Damon Thomas has announced his decision to run for Hobart City Council.

Mr Thomas, said he had a passion for the potential of Hobart, demonstrated local government experience and long term interest in our city's future.

"If elected I will add value to the Hobart community by using my professional qualifications, experience and my strong business and community relationships to assist measured progress," Mr Thomas said.

"Given the impact of the global financial crisis, we need to accelerate local investment and the allure of job creation in order to sell Hobart as a city of opportunity both interstate and overseas.

"I will work with council on charters of sustainability which offer certainty for developers and the community, so when a proposal is put forward all parties know where they stand."

Mr Thomas said through engaging with key stakeholders he will work to develop and improve current disability access strategies as well as address current community and business safety concerns.

"However, just as importantly it is time to use the strength of cross government and cross sector networks to facilitate a new dialogue aimed at enhancing cooperation between

business, other councils, the state and the federal government and its representatives," Mr Thomas said.

Mr Thomas is currently head of the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal as well as being the Korean Consul. He has previously been on the Board of the Heart Foundation and the Cancer Council.

He has a Master of Laws and formal qualifications in governance and spent a number of years in a senior management role at Brisbane City Council during an exponential growth phase including Expo 88, the Commonwealth Games bid, foreshore development, Kangaroo Point, major subdivision growth and inner city Mall development.

As well as being the head of the TCCI he was State Crown Solicitor, State Ombudsman and Ombudsman for local government, Health Complaints Commissioner, Freedom of Information Commissioner and Energy Ombudsman.

For further information: Damon Thomas 0419 355 115