



11 June 2009

Government Media Statement

GRAEME STURGES
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

State Government Funding to Support Veterans

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Graeme Sturges, today announced the State Government would support Tasmania's ex-service community with \$100,000 per annum over the next four years for the Tasmanian Returned and Services League.

Mr Sturges said the funding would assist the RSL continue its excellent work assisting Tasmania's ex-servicemen and women.

“The State Government recognises that the sacrifices made by our current and ex-service community in preserving our society, community and way of life, continues to be honoured and remembered.

“We also recognise that these men and women often rely on organisations such as the RSL for support, and that we stand ready to ensure their needs are not just recognised, but met.

“It is crucial that the changing needs of our service and ex-service community are identified and addressed, which is why the State Government has announced the formation of the Tasmanian Veterans' Advisory Council (TVAC) to play a key role in guaranteeing the State Government stays connected to issues important to the ex-service community.”

Mr Sturges said the TVAC would also:

- Strengthen the role of ex-servicemen and women in the community;

- Enable meaningful and formal dialogue between the veteran community and the State Government; and
- Raise issues relevant to the ongoing commemoration of Tasmania's military and service legacy.

Mr Sturges said the RSL remained a vital organisation in supporting the well-being and betterment of the service and ex-service community, advocating strongly for its members as well as contributing to many other causes.

“It is with much pride that the State Government announces \$100,000 for the Tasmanian RSL to assist it continue delivering its excellent work helping our veterans.

“I am confident this funding will assist the RSL deliver on vital initiatives that underpin the ongoing strength and importance of such ex-service organisations that provide such an invaluable service to their members,” Mr Sturges said.

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