

MEDIA STATEMENT
29th October 2009

Tourism Council WA Re-elects Paul King President

The Board of Tourism Council WA (TCWA) unanimously re-elected Paul King as its President for the next 2 years following its AGM held on the 12th October 2009.

Mr King had held the President's position for one year following his election to the Board in October 2008.

"I am delighted to have been re-elected as President by the Board of TCWA and to have been given the opportunity to represent the exciting, and equally challenging, tourism industry for another 2 years" said Mr King. "I look forward to seeing some positive changes at Tourism WA in the way tourism is developed in this state and I hope to see a much broader understanding from all levels of Government on what a key role the multi faceted tourism industry plays in the WA economy".

Ian Laurance continues as Vice-President for the remainder of his 2 year term.

Two new Board members were elected at the AGM, Chris Pye and Manny Papadoulis, replacing retiring members Robert Dawson and Johanna Ramsay.

Mr Pye and Mr Papadoulis have had long associations with the tourism industry in Western Australia.

Mr Pye is the Chairman and CEO of Hospitality Inns Pty, which owns and operates five motels in WA and the Karijini Eco Retreat, and has over 25 years experience in the tourism and hospitality industry.

Mr Papadoulis is Chairman of Australia's Coral Coast Regional Tourism Organisation and Principal of Icon Tourism. He is a former President of TCWA and has had over 30 years experience in the tourism industry.

The Board of TCWA has also appointed the Chair of the Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Committee (WAITOC), currently Neville Poelina, to the Board.

"This will give WAITOC, who represents indigenous tourism operators in WA, a wonderful opportunity to work more closely with the mainstream tourism industry and assist it in developing a better understanding of issues affecting indigenous tourism operators" said TCWA President Paul King.

END

For further information please contact Tourism Council WA CEO Graham Moss on (08) 9416 0700 or 0419 851 140.