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Mr Simon Wood MP Liberal Member for Bass

By email to laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Constituency Question of 19 September 2024 - Growing Events in the North

Dear Mr.Wood

Thank you for your question regarding growing events in the north of the state and for your ongoing interest in the events sector.

The departure of Mona Foma has indeed left a gap in the Launceston events calendar. As you know, the Tasmanian Government has always been a strong supporter of the events sector, providing funding to attract, retain and grow events that drive economic growth, tourism and jobs in every region of the State. Our aim is to secure a balanced events portfolio, ensuring seasonal and regional balance, as well as a comprehensive range of event types.

We will continue supporting key northern events right across the year, including Festivale, the V8 Supercars, the Australian Musical Theatre Festival, AgriCULTURED, DanceSport and of course the Junction Arts Festival. These events are in addition to significant mass-participation events that we have secured including the Rowing Australia Nationals Series and the Tour of Tasmania.

We remain committed to ensuring Tasmania is a sought-after events destination. I'm pleased to advise that our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future contains a commitment to deliver a Northern Culture and Festivals Infrastructure Plan. This plan will look at the needs of the sector to ensure northern Tasmania remains an attractive events destination and has the facilities and venues required to grow.

Visit Northern Tasmania will manage the development of the northern strategy in collaboration with Events Tasmania and will align the project with the work being undertaken towards a similar southern project. This will ensure that we have a statewide strategy in place with a broad approach to the growth of the events sector.

Work is now underway, and I expect the Northern Culture and Festivals Infrastructure Plan will be completed in the next 12 months. I look forward to sharing further details as the development of the plan continues.

I hope this information is of value to your constituents.

Yours since∕€lv

Hon Nic Street MP

Minister for Sport and Events