

**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF COMPANY DIRECTORS
TASMANIAN ANNUAL LUNCH AND AWARD PRESENTATION 2025
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL, HOBART, WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Good afternoon. Thank you for inviting me to this Tasmanian Annual Lunch, to announce the 2025 Gold Medal Award Winner.

The Gold Medal is an award to a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors for their contributions to our community. These contributions may include not only business achievements but also charitable works and employment creation.

The Gold Medal is awarded to a member who upholds good corporate governance and high ethical standards in their personal, business, and public life.

The Award recognises outstanding efforts both as a company director and as a member of our Tasmanian community.

I am delighted to announce that the winner of the 2025 Gold Medal Award is Richard, better known as, Dick Watson AM FAICD.

[applause]

Dick¹ has over 30 years of Board experience. His career began in pharmacy and evolved into marketing and agribusiness. Dick successfully built a hops business and led major aquaculture ventures, becoming a strong advocate for board cohesion and mentoring. His involvement with not-for-profits and mentoring startups has made a significant impact in our community.

¹ Email ADC and Clara Urquhart

Dick is a strategic leader who emphasises board cohesion and is known for his pragmatic and time-focused delivery of key outcomes. Dick is a worthy and deserving winner of the Gold Medal.

After this short video, Dick, I invite you on stage to receive your award.

[Video played]

It gives me the greatest pleasure to present you with this 2025 Gold Medal Award.

[Award presented, assisted by Rob Falvo]

Please join me in another round of applause for Dick Watson.

[Escorted back to seat by Rob Falvo]