

**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF COMPANY DIRECTORS  
ANNUAL GOLD MEDAL LUNCHEON PRESENTATION 2021  
ADDRESS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC,  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
CENTURION ROOM, CROWNE PLAZA, THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2021**

Good afternoon and thank you for inviting Don and I to attend this most prestigious lunch at which we shall award this year's Tasmanian Gold Medal of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I stand for a future that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal stories, culture, language and history.

The award of the Gold Medal recognises a lifetime of achievement by a Tasmanian company director. This award also recognises a member who upholds good corporate governance and high ethical standards in his or her personal, business and public life. The criteria for the award of the Gold Medal embrace not only outstanding business achievement, but also take into account community contributions.

Specifically, the Tasmanian Division Gold Medal Award recognises and rewards a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors for his or her contributions to our community across several areas. These include business, charitable and philanthropic contributions and employment creation.

The Gold Medal Award is made in recognition of outstanding efforts and achievements both as a company director and as a citizen of Tasmania.

I am pleased to announce that the winner of the Tasmanian Division Gold Medal Award for 2021, is Dr Rod Roberts.

Rod began his working life as a teacher, having studied for a Bachelor of Economics and Certificate of Education at our University of Tasmania. He began teaching HSC level Economics, Accounting and Geography. Looking for a change of pace and direction, Rod then took up appointments in marketing and management with a number of companies in our wonderful dairy industry.

Rod then moved again, this time on to executive roles in investment banking. He held international responsibilities as Head of Corporate Finance for Bain and Company (now Deutsche Bank), Head of Corporate Advisory at County NatWest Australia (now Citibank) as well as an Executive Director of the parent board.

Subsequently, Rod held numerous Managing Director, Non-Executive and Executive Director and Chairman roles in the Automotive, Food and Agribusiness sectors, predominantly with ASX listed companies.

Rod's commitment and contributions to the not-for-profit sector over the past 30 years has been exceptional. These include service to Higher Education with appointment to the University of Tasmania Council for 13 years, ten of which were as Deputy Chancellor. Rod also Chaired and was a member of our University's Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

Rod was also state representative on the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry from 1996 to 1998.

The Australian Institute of Company Directors, benefited from Rod's service on the National Tax and Economics Committee for six years in the 1990s; on the State Council from 2008–2018, (including four years as President of Tasmania branch); and as a non-executive director of the National Board until his retirement in August 2018.

Finally, Rod is currently a non-executive director of the Tasmanian Division Audit and Risk Committee for our Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Amongst all of these outstanding achievements, Rod found time to earn the degree of Master of Business Administration from the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW. Deservedly, his contributions have been recognised with an honorary Doctor of Laws by our University of Tasmania.

The range and length of service in so many diverse areas in management, governance and strategic business planning and equally to our community demonstrates how worthy Rod is of this Gold Medal Award.

So, magnificently well done, Rod Roberts, on your lifetime of business achievements. I also thank you for your extraordinary range of community contributions to Tasmania and, indeed, to Australia.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to present this Australian Institute of Company Directors Gold Medal Award to you.

*[Present award to Rod Roberts]*

Ladies and gentlemen, I think a further round of applause is in order.

Thank you.