

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Monday 21 May, 2018**

**Leading Launceston Business Innovator to speak at AICD Leaders' Edge Lunch**

On Thursday 31 May 2018, the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) will offer its members and non-members the opportunity to attend the next instalment of the Leaders' Edge Lunch series from 12.15pm – 2pm at Hobart Grand Chancellor in Hobart, Tasmania.

The lunch will feature keynote speaker and local Launceston business leader, Dr David Warren FAICD and will focus on technology and innovation.

Well-known for its prestigious director training programs, the AICD offers a range of courses and events to enable sector-specific and organisation-specific issues to be covered in-depth. AICD is active in regional areas and its governance courses are ideal for companies and organisations of all sizes.

A businessman, astronomer and philanthropist, Warren is first and foremost a proud Tasmanian. He grew up in Kings Meadow, Launceston, studied at the University of Tasmania (UTAS), before co-founding Altium Ltd in 1987, which went on to become a \$2 billion ASX listed public company. In 2016, Warren donated \$2.6 million to UTAS, the largest philanthropic donation in the university's 126-year history.

"We are pleased to be able to provide the Tasmanian community with this opportunity to gain some insights and strategies from a leading local expert in an interactive session. The AICD is committed to delivering innovative, tailor-made training and networking opportunities which cater to the needs of our region," said John Devine, State Manager, Tasmania, AICD.

Warren will also explore the challenges for directors in relation to innovation, as well as providing insights on strategies for success, by reflecting on his own global directorship journey from Tasmania, all the way to Silicon Valley and Munich.

"The challenge for boards of companies in innovation is extending their brain space, extending their world view to include the kind of thoughts that the innovation business entails," Warren said.

Warren is of the view that in today's fast-paced business landscape, it is more important than ever for directors to invest in innovation and strategic decision-making. He suggests that one of the major challenges facing boards is to balance the drive, creativity and adaptability of new innovators with the wealth of experience available from older more experienced directors.

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“Directors need to learn to embrace new ideas and changes, which often require a considerable investment in terms of time and study,” Warren said.

Warren says Tasmania is leading the charge in innovation, from its success as a state during the electronic boom in the 1980s, to new developments and advances in sectors such as tourism, agriculture and science, citing UTAS as the source of much of this innovation.

“If the whole country did as well as Tasmania, I think we’d be flying,” Warren added.

Tasmanian members wishing to enquire about the AICD events or governance programs can contact the Tasmania Division on 03 6242 2201 or [tas@aicd.com.au](mailto:tas@aicd.com.au).

For more information on the Leaders’ Edge Lunch or to book tickets visit:  
<http://aicd.companydirectors.com.au/events/events-calendar/vic/ev139544-lunch>

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