



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
VICTORIA

INTERNATIONAL MINING AND RESOURCES CONFERENCE DELEGATES RECEPTION

Monday 29 October, 2018

The Honourable Tim Pallas MP, Treasurer and Minister for Resources

Ambassadors

Ministers

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

First, I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land upon which we are gathering and pay my respects to their Elders past and present and to any Elders here with us this evening.

Tony and I are delighted to welcome you all to Government House.

You represent the more than 5,000 mining and resources professionals, from more than 90 nations who are gathering in Melbourne for the 2018 International Mining and Resources Conference, and the coinciding International Council on Mining and Metals bi-annual Council Meeting.

And so, for the many of you who have travelled to attend this conference, we welcome you very warmly to Melbourne and to Australia as well.

I do feel that this is an appropriate setting in which to offer that welcome to you.

Mining is properly front of mind when we stand in this beautiful Government House. Completed in 1876, it was built on the wealth that gold mining brought to Victoria. It is a grand legacy of that Gold Rush.

Mining is in its DNA and in the DNA of Victoria. It was a cornerstone of the modern history of our State, of population growth, prosperity, and of beautifully designed cities with important buildings.

Naturally, across the more than a century and a half that has passed since the Gold Rush, the mining and resources industry has evolved.

Traditional machinery and methodology have in many instances been greatly changed by technology, but the drive to find resources that lie within the rock, under the earth or within the ocean, remains the same.

The sector is still led by men and women up for the search, innovative and creative thinkers, the ones who see the big opportunity, those who don't shy away from risk.

We appreciate that, even in modern-day Victoria, we continue to be the beneficiaries of the mining and resources industry.

Melbourne is the corporate home of international mining companies. In fact, 76% of the ASX 100 market capitalisation for mining stock is from companies in this city. It is a base for many of the innovative companies in mining equipment and technology and the home to key financial institutions that support the industry.

I could go on: As the Governor of Victoria, I am naturally proud of our State! But I am also well aware that our visitors, from so many different parts of the world, bring skills and experience to this conference of which they too are rightly proud.

This IMARC conference, now in its 5th year, and with the ICMM meeting overlapping with it, will provide the platform to ensure that the global mining and resources sector is enhanced by your shared knowledge and collaboration.

Of course, I do not have the industry expertise of those in the room but, may I offer a layman's advice that, to achieve the most while you are here, you do need to hold some of your

important conversations in the myriad of beautiful, and even playful settings that we have in this State.

A coffee in a café amidst the street art and laneways of our city, or perhaps something a little stronger in a hidden bar, or a glorious vineyard in the Yarra Valley or the Mornington Peninsula, (just by way of example), is likely to promote the best conversations about sustainable development, current market trends, commodity forecasts, innovation and operational excellence....and all the other important topics on your agenda.

You shouldn't overlook the opportunity either to attend one of our major sporting events, with the Spring Racing Carnival just upon us. Just a coincidence of timing, I am sure.

We wish all of you a productive, collaborative and successful time, but for now, please just enjoy the hospitality here at Government House. We look forward to meeting with as many of you as we can shortly.

But first it is my pleasure to introduce the Honourable Tim Pallas Treasurer and Minister for Resources.