



## **Tasmanian Small Business Council Inc**

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## **Media Release**

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### **Small Business slow to take up free cash**

'Tasmanian businesses have been disappointingly slow to take the offer of the Tasmanian government who currently provide \$1 000 for new positions created by Tasmanian small businesses between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015,' said Robert Mallett, Executive Officer of the TSBC.

'The Small Business Jobs Bonus is a Tasmanian Government initiative that supports Tasmanian small businesses to create jobs in the 2014-15 financial year. The Bonus provides grants to eligible Tasmanian small businesses of \$1 000 for each new full time job and \$500 for each new part time job. Eligible businesses can apply multiple times for jobs created throughout the year, but available funding is capped at \$2 million and grants will be awarded on a 'first in' basis.'

'Figures available at 15 June show that there have only been 101 applications which equate to 150 positions. I can't believe that this is the sum total of new jobs in the state since July 1 last year,' he said.

'In an effort to support the small business sector and highlight the opportunities for businesses that have created full time or part time positions within their business the TSBC, in conjunction with the Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business Adam Brooks MP, is conducting a series of Small Business Support and Mentoring sessions around the state to encourage small businesses to take full advantage of the myriad of free services, grants and incentives which are available.'

'Key speakers at the sessions will be the Adam Brooks MP, representatives from the Enterprise Centres Tasmania Network, Mick Hawes with a 30 minute presentation on Uncovering Hidden Profits and the Tasmanian Energy Brokers uncovering ways for small businesses to save on their energy bills.'

'Nobody should leave a session without at least several ideas which they can implement in their business which will either save or make them money,' said Mr Mallett.

'In addition to the Tasmanian Government cash the federal government also has a range of attractive incentives up to \$16,500 which the small business sector should be tapping into and information on these will also be available.'

**ENDS**