



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tony Simpson MLA

Opposition Spokesperson for Information
and Communication Technology

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Government turns back on ICT industry, Again

The Carpenter Government has once again shown its contempt for Western Australia's Information and Communications Technology Industry.

In an act of short sightedness the State Labor Government has abolished the long lived and highly successful Technology and Industry Advisory Council (TIAC).

TIAC will be merged with the recently created WA Science Council.

Opposition Spokesperson for IT and Communications Tony Simpson has expressed his stunned disbelief that the Premier and his Minister for Science and Innovation, Fran Logan, would get rid of such an important organisation.

"I cannot believe that the government would make such a disgraceful decision," said Mr Simpson.

"For years TIAC has provided invaluable advise to governments of both persuasions.

"Advice that has almost always been followed and proven to be of great benefit to the people of Western Australia.

"It will now be merged with the WA Science Council.

"An organisation that was former Premier Geoff Gallop's pet project.

"An organisation that neither Alan Carpenter nor Fran Logan have any interest in.

"So they will merge one highly successful organisation that has been a great asset to Western Australia, with a former Premier's baby that the current Premier and his Minister would rather ignore.

"The problem with this is it risks destroying what has been an impartial organisation that has told governments how it really is and how best to maintain the technological competitiveness of WA's economy.

"Instead of creating synergies, the Labor State Government will potentially destroy an organisation that has been an unqualified success.

"The Government clearly has no real desire to see Western Australia's ICT industry succeed.

"They talk about their beyond the boom strategy and their dedication to turning Western Australia into a high tech, competitive State.

"However, their actions speak louder than their words.



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“First they dropped the OpenSource WA Demonstration Centre, now they’re doing the same to TIAC.

“What successful ICT initiative will be next?”

Media enquiries: Shaun Ratcliff
E-mail: shaun.ratcliff@mp.wa.gov.au
Mobile: 0405 440 345