



## Media Release – Tuesday 21 March 2023

### Gippsland Business Awards Launched

The Federation University Gippsland Business Awards celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> year in 2023 with supporters and sponsors launching the silver anniversary milestone on Tuesday 21 March.

Awards Chair, Graeme Sennett, said the milestone anniversary demonstrated the determination, innovation and resilience of not only those involved but the business and industry of Gippsland.

“For 25 years, these awards have acknowledged the incredible achievements businesspeople from across the region, which has only been possible with the continued support of our local councils and corporate sponsors,” Mr Sennett said.

As well as the prestigious Gippsland Business of the Year award, other categories in 2023 are: Accommodation, Food Wine Producers, Health & Wellbeing, Hospitality, Manufacturing, New Business, Retail, Business & Professional Services, Beauty and Personal Care, Mechanical Trades & Construction, and Tourism Activities & Attractions.

In addition, this year, entrants can also enter the new ‘Innovation’ category sponsored by the Latrobe Valley Authority.

All entrants will be considered for the commemorative judges’ choice - ‘25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award’.

Winners will be announced at a gala event on Friday 25 August at Federation University in Churchill

Mr Sennett told those at the breakfast launch, sponsored by NBN Local, that the business sector was vital to the growth, innovation and sustainability of the regional community.

“Local businesses create jobs, which provide employment diversity, deliver services that improve liveability and ultimately drive economic growth essential to maintaining a regional community,” he said.

“Over the years, our finalists and winners have demonstrated how ideas and dreams can be turned into reality. Despite facing obstacles and challenges, their passion, enthusiasm and skills create businesses that are second to none.”

Nominations are now open for the awards with entries closing on 26 May.

They can be submitted on the Federation University Gippsland Business Awards website - [www.gba.org.au](http://www.gba.org.au) Once a business is nominated, it will receive a unique email link to complete its entry. All entries are completed on-line.

“We urge all Gippsland business operators to take this opportunity to recognise their achievements by entering the 2023 awards,” Mr Sennett added.

**For additional media comment please contact GBA Chair, Graeme Sennett 0417 509 149**