

September 11, 2018

Committee for Perth announces incoming Chairman

A leader in Perth's hospitality and tourism sector, Kate Lamont, will replace John Langoulant AO as the Committee for Perth Chair when he retires in November this year. Mr Langoulant has been a Director of the Committee for Perth since 2008 and was elected Chair in 2012. John's retirement comes as he completes the maximum number of years allowed under the Committee's Constitution.

"I have enjoyed immensely being involved in the work of the Committee for Perth and to see how its influence has grown, as a result of the depth, relevance and quality of the work it carries out. It's not philosophically or ideologically driven, it's all evidence-based," said Mr Langoulant.

"During my term I've focused on growing the membership and capability of the organisation, as well as securing it a new home. Over the past six years it has been pleasing to see membership grow to more than 100 organisations strong, and with that financial backing we moved into London House last year. Most of all, I am proud of the evidence base it has created on many dimensions of Perth's demography, economy and policy."

"There's no-one else in Perth carrying out the leading-edge, informative research the Committee works on. One of the absolute highlights as Chair was the release of the Filling the Pool report, it was a piece of research that not only had merit, it broke new ground," said Mr Langoulant.

As new Chair, Kate Lamont brings more than three decades of experience in the wine, food and tourism industries in Western Australia. She has overseen the development of her family's business from a tiny one person farm to an integrated food and wine group with 80 employees. Kate previously served as a Director in the formative years of the Committee.

"I really enjoyed being there at the beginning. Coming together as a collective and talking about the greater good for Perth by making sure that it's a good place to live, work, visit and invest as the population grows. And now that I've had some time away, I look forward to looking at those, as well as new issues, with fresh eyes," said Kate.

"I've always worked in small business, so I understand we need more customers and Perth has the capacity to grow. It's about finding the right path for the journey and the Committee can help to shape that. The good thing is that the Committee has put together such a critical mass of evidence that government and decision makers respect what they say."

Committee for Perth CEO, Marion Fulker thanked John Langoulant for his commitment as Chair.

"John has demonstrated such passion for the work we do at the Committee which made him a very strong advocate and leader. He has steered us through a very exciting period of growth and overseen the release of several landmark reports, which have certainly helped the Committee build its influence," said Mrs Fulker.

"As our incoming Chair, Kate Lamont brings a clear insight and understanding into the small to medium enterprise sector, which is not only at the cutting edge, but is also the heart and soul of Greater Perth's economy. Kate has proven to be an innovator in the highly-competitive hospitality sector, where she has developed, maintained and grown the Lamont's brand."

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