



Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association

THE PAUL JEROME AWARD

The Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association (VPELA) instituted The Paul Jerome Award in 2005 in memory of our esteemed colleague and VPELA Board Member Paul Jerome. The Award is part of VPELA's commitment to encouraging, recognising and supporting outstanding contribution to public administration.

The Purpose of this Award is to recognise outstanding contribution to public service in the image of Paul Jerome.

The Award may be awarded annually at the discretion of the VPELA Board. It will be marked by a presentation at the VPELA annual conference. The recipient will be presented with an engraved trophy and will be invited to attend the VPELA conference that year as VPELA's guest.

Direction of the award

The principal focus of the award is toward the administration of planning within the umbrella of public service to state and local government.

The Paul Jerome Award will be made to a person (or group of people) who has (or have)

- Demonstrated outstanding skill in managing the planning system effectively and/or
- Introduced or had recognised innovation which has led to major improvements to administration of local and/or state government and planning systems and processes.

Qualification

In an environment where it is broadly acknowledged that Planning is itself a complex web, individuals require a high level of management skills to work within and to create a satisfying working environment for all parties involved.

Achieving improvement of the planning system and processes, to balance competing demands and to avoid failure or paralysis of the system demands skills and performance to achieve results that can satisfy basic requirements and the politics of decision making.

The recipient of the award will have demonstrated the ability to not just work within the system but to achieve results and change in a special way.

Other attributes will be the ability

- To focus on the key issues
- To manage priorities and competing objectives
- To understand and manage the political context
- To provide strong professional advice and leadership
- To develop positive and constructive external relationships.

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Criteria

The direction of the Award requires that the nominees must have demonstrated outstanding skill in managing the planning system effectively and/or introduced, or had recognised innovation which has led to major improvements to administration. While those outcomes and the grounds to qualify for the Award indicate the attributes sought in persons nominated for the Award, there are no personal criteria required of nominees.

Nominees will be highly regarded where it can be shown that their service is consistent with the purposes of VPELA. They are:

- To facilitate liaison and communication between practitioners concerned with using legal and administrative processes to achieve planning and environmental objectives;
- To promote environmental knowledge and awareness, and ethical and competent practice in the planning and environmental professions;
- To promote understanding of the role of planning and environmental law in regulating and managing the conservation of and usage of the environment;
- To contribute toward the resolution of problems relating to the administration, implementation and regulation of planning and environmental legislation;
- To gather information and consider and make recommendations and submissions concerning any existing or proposed legislation or policies.

For further information, please contact:

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