

November 13, 2013

Martin Ferguson honoured by AHA and Treasury Wine Estates

Highly-respected former Federal Member of Parliament the Hon. Martin Ferguson AM was honoured by the Australian Hotels Association (AHA) and Treasury Wine Estates on November 4.

AHA President Peter Burnett and Treasury Wine Estates Chief Executive Officer Warwick Every-Burns presented Mr Ferguson as the inaugural winner of the Treasury Wine Estates and AHA 'Services to the industry' award at an AHA function in Melbourne in front of key industry leaders, MPs, Senators and key supporters.

Mr Burnett said the AHA thanked Mr Ferguson for his strong support of the licensed hotel industry over many years and he was a worthy recipient of this prestigious honour.

"Martin Ferguson has been a champion for Australia's licensed hotel industry and his service should be recognised," Mr Burnett said.

Mr Every-Burns said Martin's former role as Minister for Tourism showed he was an outstanding ambassador for our industry.

"Ahead of today's event I asked a number of people, including friends at the AHA, about Martin's qualities and why he was so respected by the wine and hotels industries," he said.

"Very accessible and supportive, knowledgeable and passionate about the sector and having an ability to engineer practical solutions were some of the verbatim comments received."

Mr Every-Burns said Mr Ferguson's surprise retirement from Parliament drew warm praise from all sides of politics across the Chamber, including Prime Minister Tony Abbott, who recently said:

"The Government, his Party, the Parliament and our country will be the poorer for his absence. Well may we shed a tear for things which were, which should be but which are not. From this side of the political trench I salute an honourable opponent and a great Australian".

Mr Every-Burns said TWE and the AHA strongly endorse the sentiment of the PM's remarks.



AHA and TWE tribute to MP –Treasury Wine Estates CEO Warwick Every-Burns and AHA National President Peter Burnett and presented Mr Ferguson with his service award.

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