



19 May 2018

Guy Barnett, Minister for Veterans' Affairs

## RSL State Congress

The Hodgman Liberal Government is a strong supporter of our veterans and returned service community, and today I was pleased to address the 103rd Annual State Congress of RSL (Tasmania).

Tasmania has a long and proud military history, and this Government has a strong track record delivering positive outcomes that support our veterans and their families.

In this year's budget the Liberal Government will provide a \$750,000 package to support our veterans and ex-serving communities in Tasmania over the next 3 years.

In a first, the RSL (Tasmania Branch) will become the peak body for veterans in Tasmania and, as a result of this change of status, will receive annual core funding of \$110,000 from 2018-19 which will be indexed into the future.

We will also be providing RSLs and other veterans' organisations with a \$100,000 per year grant program – named after Edward "Teddy" Sheean, one of Tasmania's best known servicemen - for small infrastructure repairs and equipment purchases.

To properly acknowledge the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice in 1918, the Hodgman Liberal Government will provide \$50,000 to the RSL to celebrate and remember this significant occasion.

The Government will continue to be a strong advocate for Tasmania's veterans, and I would like to thank RSL (Tasmania) for the great support they provide veterans and ex-serving members.