

Media Release

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## **INTERNATIONAL FORUM EXPLORES EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE IN TASMANIA**

A forum and workshop will be held in Launceston tomorrow with international speakers to discuss issues surrounding early childhood education and care in Tasmania.

Presenters at the forum, to be held on Tuesday 8 June at the Launceston Tramshed Function Centre, include the past director of the Early Childhood and Family Unit of UNESCO Dr John Bennett, researcher at the Munich-based State Institute of Early Childhood Research Dr Pamela Oberhuemer, and past president of the British Association of Early Childhood Education and Tasmanian Early Years Foundation Board member Emeritus Professor Philip Gammage.

The panel of international experts will be talking about integrated services for children, implementing quality in early childhood education and care, and the approach to early education and care in Nordic countries.

The forum is sponsored by the Tasmanian Early Years Foundation as part of its learning and development strategy that aims to promote professional development for key staff across sectors, including early childhood health, education and care.

Tasmanian Early Years Foundation (TEYF) Chair, Dr Sue Jenkins said she was very pleased to have presenters of such high calibre at the forum.

“This forum brings together acclaimed international experts in early childhood education and care. Their expertise and opinions will be invaluable in consolidating the direction of services and practice in Tasmania,” Dr Jenkins said.

The forum is being funded by a grant from TEYF and is a direct response to the introduction by the Australian Government of the National Quality Framework for early childhood education and child care.

“The workshops will also provide an opportunity for advocacy and networking across the Tasmanian sector which builds a shared understanding of the many issues facing the sector, building relationships and support,” Dr Jenkins said.

“The Foundation is keen to support those working in the early childhood education and child care sector through this period of change and implementation by hearing first hand international experiences.”

The Launceston forum runs from 9.00 am to 4 pm on Tuesday 8 June at the No. 28 Tram Room, Launceston Tramshed Function Centre, 4 Invermay Road, Iveresk. An attendance fee of \$88.00 per person applies and lunch is provided.

Ends....

Contact:

Dr Sue Jenkins, Chair The Tasmanian Early Years Foundation, telephone 0438 345 991.