

To Don Challen and Pesrac Council,

The West Coast of Tasmania, has an important role to play in industries that will support COVID recovery, in particular, tourism, mining and fisheries. Western Tasmania has some amazing minerals that are unique in the world and the Mining Museum in Zeehan has some very significant collections. However the museum is run down and does not attract the local and interstate/overseas tourists as in previous decades.

This Zeehan museum could become a major tourist attraction for the west coast, to compliment the current attractions and keep the tourists on the west coast for a further day, but it requires modernisation and a major face lift.

In order to boost the Museum as a major attractor for tourism I suggest it is completely renovated and expanded to become a **Mineral Museum and Dinosaur Park**. This may sound strange as Tasmania has few dinosaur remains, however we have previous experience that dinosaur displays are the best tourist magnet that any museum world wide can offer. I have heard this from several museum directors around the world.

We also have first hand knowledge of the power of Dinosaur displays as I was personally behind bringing a major dinosaur display to TMAG and the Royal Society of Tasmania last year. This exhibition, ran for 5 months at TMAG and was the most successful exhibition TMAG has ever held in terms of numbers through the door. It paid for itself twice over.

The other advantage from a Tasmanian perspective is that exhibitions like this are designed and built by a **Tasmanian company based in Launceston**. Also virtual reality expertise also available in Tasmania can enhance exhibitions of this type so that "dinosaurs roaring and running through the bush" have become a reality.

This all means that using totally Tasmanian expertise and labour we could build a world class Dinosaur Park in Zeehan, with up to date science of dinosaurs, combined with virtual reality that would attract families from all around the world - **a virtual Jurassic Park in Zeehan**. I emphasise **families**, as they are the tourism market for dinosaurs. When you add this to the revamped mineral museum and upgraded 7 km road to the rugged coastline of Trial Harbour then the Tasmanian west coast will leap up the ladder of tourist destinations for any family visiting Tasmania.

I am happy to provide a detailed business case if required.

Yours,

Distinguished Professor Ross Large AO