

JANIE FINLAY

Labor Member for Bass

14 July 2025

Russell Kelly
CEO
TasICT

Via email: Russell.kelly@tasict.com.au

Dear Russell

Thank you for your continued leadership in advancing Tasmania's digital economy and for outlining a clear and strategic vision for the future of the ICT sector. TasICT plays a vital role in shaping the policies and partnerships that will ensure Tasmania remains competitive, connected, and inclusive in the digital age.

I am writing to express my strong support for your priorities and to acknowledge the valuable contribution your organisation makes to our economy, workforce, and innovation landscape. Your work reflects the values we share—fairness, opportunity, and progress—and I commend your commitment to delivering outcomes that matter for Tasmania's communities and industries.

An incoming Labor government will be committed to working alongside TasICT to support our new government to embrace a greater use of responsible Artificial Intelligence to reduce red tape, make faster decisions and build cheaper and more efficient government services. We are determined to deliver a fresh start for Tasmania with new whole-of-government programs to upskills public servants in the use of responsible AI, while establishing innovation programs to massively develop a tech business ecosystem in Tasmania.

We will focus on the following priorities:

- **Provide Leadership:** to ensure Tasmania is well-positioned to harness emerging technologies and drive digital transformation.

Tasmanian
Labor



[janiefinlay.northerntasmania](https://www.facebook.com/janiefinlay.northerntasmania)



janie.finlay@parliament.tas.gov.au



- **Supporting innovation for business**, through the introduction and expansion of programs that assist start-ups, scale-ups, and R&D initiatives—particularly in the integration of AI—and build ICT capacity and capability across Tasmanian businesses.
- **Take opportunities when presented to invest in communications infrastructure**, including as an example in subsea data cables, to ensure Tasmania's digital economy is underpinned by world-class connectivity and data resilience.
- **Encouraging workforce development**, by supporting mentoring and networking programs, promoting diversity in the ICT sector, incentivising regional migration of ICT professionals, and encouraging businesses to offer placements for graduates and entry-level employees.
- **Backing the proposed STEM campus at the University of Tasmania**, and encouraging the tech industry to lift its capability to support the precinct and foster collaboration between education and enterprise.

Labor recognises that digital capability is foundational to Tasmania's future prosperity. We are proud to stand with TasICT in building a thriving, innovative, and inclusive digital economy.

Please consider us a partner in your efforts.

I look forward to continuing to work together to deliver these outcomes for Tasmania.

.

Yours Sincerely



Janie Finlay MP
MEMBER FOR BASS

CC: Dean Winter MP Tasmanian Labor Leader