



**GEELONG**  
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE  
AWARDS



geelong  
chamber of commerce  
THE VOICE OF BUSINESS

**Thursday 6 April 2016**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Geelong's Business Leaders AIM for State Title**

The Geelong Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for winners of the 2017 Powercor Geelong Business Excellence Awards '*Business Leader of the Year*' and '*Young Entrepreneur of the Year*'.

The Chamber has partnered with the Australian Institute of Management (AIM) enabling winners of these two awards to be automatically shortlisted as finalists for the Victorian finals of the prestigious AIM Leadership Excellence Awards.

Winners of the state awards will then vie for national recognition at the AIM national awards.

The '*Business Leader of the Year*' award, sponsored by 2016 Business of the Year winner Adroit Insurance Group, and the '*Young Entrepreneur of the Year*' award, sponsored by Deakin Business School, are two new award categories introduced into the 2017 Powercor Geelong Business Excellence Awards.

The annual AIM Leadership Excellence Awards (ALEAs) is the peak national awards program that recognises and celebrates Australia's most outstanding leaders.

Chamber CEO Bernadette Uzelac, who was part of the judging panel for the 2016 ALEAs, is delighted that the Geelong region's outstanding leaders will be recognised at state level.

"For the past three decades the AIM Leadership Excellence Awards have showcased individuals that have made a meaningful impact and contribution to their organisation and community," Ms Uzelac said.

"We are very fortunate to have many outstanding leaders and entrepreneurs in the Geelong regional business community.

"The Chamber looks forward to recognising the 2017 Business Leader of the Year and Young Entrepreneur of the Year at the business awards presentation dinner in August and I hope to see both winners standing on the stage as the Victorian winners at the AIM Leadership Excellence Awards later this year."

AIM CEO David Pich said the AIM Leadership Excellence Awards have a proud tradition of unearthing the most inspirational leaders in the Australian workforce.

"There are outstanding managers in every industry across Australia and I look forward to seeing Geelong's finest leader and Young Entrepreneur representing their great city and business community in the Victorian finals and – possibly – the national finals," Mr Pich said.

Nominations for this year's Powercor Geelong Business Excellence Awards are open until **Friday 7 April**. Entries close on Monday 22 May.

Nominations are now open for the 2017 ALEAs, so nominate a leader or apply yourself today. Click [here](#) for more details.