



Media Release

Outstanding wins for Tasmania at GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards

Saturday 22 October 2016

Outstanding innovation by project teams from Tasmania has been recognised at the national and international GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards in Adelaide this weekend.

GovHack National Director, Richard Tubb, said, “creative people from across Tasmania greatly impressed the judges with their outstanding ideas for projects that helped unlock the value of open data for everyone in the community. Hobart’s Rex Smeal also won the National Spirit of GovHack 1st prize for sharing his skills and collaborating with other teams. Rex was friendly, welcoming and lead by example, using his substantial GovHack experience to help others.”

Held in July at 40 locations across Australia and New Zealand [GovHack 2016](#) is believed to be the world’s biggest annual government open data hackathon. The 46 hour event attracted over 3,000 participants who formed into teams to transform government open data into apps, visualisations and websites and compete for the prestigious Red Carpet Awards. A record number of data sets (over 170) and data portals (over 40) were made available for the event by a wide range of government agencies.

Award winning projects from Tasmania included:

- [Beat The Press](#) - A fast paced action game that pits news broadcasters (including characters based on Lee Lin Chin and Tony Jones) against each other to match headlines with news and other data from the ABC, the National Portrait Gallery, CSIRO Science Images, the Linc Tasmania Digitised Archives and News Corp.
- [Mission: Attrition](#) - This game features university lecturers battling to break down the barriers that may reduce their students’ chances of passing their course using open data about student dropout rates from the Department of Education and Training.

Red Carpet Award Results

National Spirit of GovHack Awards won by individuals from Tasmania:

- GovHack Australia's National Spirit of GovHack Award 1st prize - Rex Smeal.

International major prizes won by teams from Tasmania:

- Ancestry.com's [Storytelling Hack](#) 2nd prize - [Beat The Press](#) by When Badgers Go Bad.

National major prizes won by teams from Tasmania:

- DATA 61 and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's [Inspired by Research Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [Beat The Press](#) by When Badgers Go Bad.

National bounty prizes won by teams from Tasmania:

- The Department of Education and Training's [Student Dropout Rates](#) Honorable Mention - [Mission: Attrition](#) by Not Just a Statistic.

GovHack aims to connect citizens with government and industry to help unlock the social and economic value of open data - estimated to be worth around \$25 billion a year in Australia alone.

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