Press Release
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Peter Coad hits campaign trail for Huon Mayor

Peter Coad — previous deputy mayor Huon Valley council and councillor for more than a decade — has announced he will be campaigning to become the Huon Valley's next mayor.

Lifetime residents of the Huon, Peter and Patricia Coad live at Deep Bay. They have four children, Brad, Simon, Carmen and Cassandra, most of whom have made the valley home. “Family is everything,” says Mr Coad, “so it is essential that we create a dynamic and sustainable lifestyle for all of us.”

In addition to his long experience in local government, Mr Coad — well known for his strong interest in innovation and technology — has held executive positions in the construction industry at state and national level, and management roles in developing co-operative research centres with national universities and international bodies.

He has also owned and operated a small business in the aquaculture industry in the Huon Valley. “The fishing industry, including the recreational fishing sector, is vital to the state's economy,” he says.

He says that, as mayor, he would raise the profile of all potentially sound businesses in the valley by streamlining and better utilising existing council services and resources.

“My campaign will be about recognising significant challenges that are about to occur, and that we, as a collective community, must address. First, as a council and a community, we must work to remove the division and frustration that exist among us.”

Mr Coad, pointing to the forest industry in the valley, says: “It must be supported, and, in particular, the people most affected by the changes in that industry in recent years.

It should not mean a continuation of the practices that have brought the industry to its present dire situation. “New proposals to establish an industry that is sustainable and adds economic value to the region must be supported in a positive and constructive way by council,” says Mr Coad.

Mr Coad says that, in standing for election as councillor and mayor, he wants to make a real difference to the community “so that my children and other families’ children and grandchildren, can grow up knowing that they will not have to leave the valley to find employment or the opportunities needed to safeguard their families and their aspirations.

“We need to care for and manage our environment and use it in a sustainable way so that we can all reap rewards from the ensuing economic benefits.

“In the weeks ahead, I will present specific policies and remedies that I feel will put our council in tune with the needs of the people of the valley and with the interests of its economic and environmental well-being.”

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