



MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

PO Box 507 Esperance WA 6450

T: (08) 9071 0666 F: (08) 9071 0600

E: shire@esperance.wa.gov.au

www.esperance.wa.gov.au

19 September 2016

CIVIC CENTRE RECEIVES FUNDS

The Esperance Civic Centre is about to receive much needed upgrades thanks to an allocation of the Regional Venues Improvement Fund (RVIF), part of the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.

The Shire of Esperance has been awarded \$138,292 to replace and upgrade audio and lighting equipment at the Esperance Civic Centre, which is no longer fit for purpose. The upgrade was recommended in the Technical Benchmarking Report commissioned by CircuitWest through Scheme 2 of Creative Regions.

The Esperance Civic Centre is the hub for professional performing arts presentation in the Esperance region. The Centre supports a range of "bought in" touring productions and productions that hire the facility. The centre also hosts a local music eisteddfod, school productions and local dance school performances, along with a music festival.

The Esperance Civic Centre has used equipment that was purchased as far back as 1981, when the venue first opened. The equipment is now obsolete and outdated, some of which is no longer serviceable.

Shire President Victoria Brown said "It was wonderful to hear about the successful RVIF grant for the Esperance Civic Centre, and also for the 120 year old Bijou Theatre to also receive funding. Events are so important for our community and given Esperance's geographical isolation and limited population, attracting touring productions can be a challenge. The upgrades and replacements will open up the venues to a greater variety of modern touring productions."

The equipment is expected to be purchased, delivered and installed by early next year.

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT:

Naomi Christensen (08) 9071 0626