RECONCILIATION TASMANIA'S YOUTH SPEAK OUT 2024 REMARKS BY HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2024

Good morning, everyone, and a very warm welcome to these Reconciliation Tasmania 2024 Youth Speak Out presentations.

I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose land we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal community as ongoing custodians of Country. I recognise their enduring culture and deep connection to land, sea, sky and waters.

This is the seventh year of Reconciliation Tasmania's Youth Speak Out. This annual education initiative provides an opportunity for the next generation to consider, record, and present their views on what reconciliation means to them. The theme for this year is "Now More Than Ever", stressing the need for reconciliation.

School students come from all over our State to present here at Government House, then later today for others at Parliament House. Entries may feature in the Reconciliation Tasmania (RT) Annual Report or other promotional materials, including the website.

RT's Youth Speak Out encourages our young people to think about ways in which words, video, art or music can better achieve reconciliation outcomes for Tasmania. The theme encourages everyone to be involved in reconciliation in constructive ways in everyday life.

I commend Youth Speak Out for bringing your commitment to reconciliation into the classroom, into the Parliament, and here to Government House.

To all students participating here today, and we shall hear them speak and get certificates – congratulations. May I also thank your parents and, of course, a special congratulations to your teachers.

Now, I look forward to hearing some of you for this 2024 Reconciliation Tasmania Youth Speak Out.

Thank you.