



Marine Protection Tas Inc

PRESIDENT'S REPORT : AGM 2017

Since our last AGM which was held on the 28th October, 2016 there has been an enormous amount of work carried out by many of you and thanks to you all we have had an enormous success with our campaign. I would like to congratulate you all on a fantastic effort, particularly given that we are all volunteers. Our support base has grown from a hundred or so to tens of thousands and this has been evident not only with social media ie Facebook, but with the four major events which MPT either organised or was part of.

First of all, there was the 4 Corners episode in late October last year which really exposed the poor transparency and accountability in the salmon industry and poor governance by the Hodgman Government. Then there was the community meeting that was held in Triabunna, this meeting quite possibly would have been the biggest community meeting held on the East Coast in a very long time and then there was FloatMO, Tasmania has not seen a protest rally like FloatMO since the Franklin Dam/Lake Pedder days. Lastly, despite limited notice and time to organise OkeFLOAT, we still achieved excellent media coverage.

So, when you look at those achievements it is pretty damn good effort from a small organising committee.

Although Tassal now has pens in Okehampton Bay I do not accept that we have lost this campaign, in fact far from it. I believe our major strategies for the upcoming months ahead should be focused on the following:

- We still have the Development Application for the dam and wharf to be finalised
- The upcoming State Election
- We have the release of Freedom of Information documents regarding the EPA's lack of reprimand to Tassal for violating a number of breaches. The EPA is obviously not doing its supposed job and we need to make the public more aware of this
- It is essential to begin monitoring Tassal's operations in Okehampton Bay (Big Brother is Watching You Tassal). We need to somehow police this and as a vital starting point I have GoPro underwater footage of the 4 navigational markers of the Okehampton lease. We need to start a data base on Okehampton Bay and we need to collate any information that is obtained and damaging to Tassal on a daily basis
- Maintaining Facebook as this is a vital link for our ongoing support base as there are tens of thousands of followers
- On a lighter note. Let's pray for a big another big East Coast swell, similar to the one that wiped out Stapleton Beach
- We have a prediction of warmer currents this summer coming towards us. Watch this space.

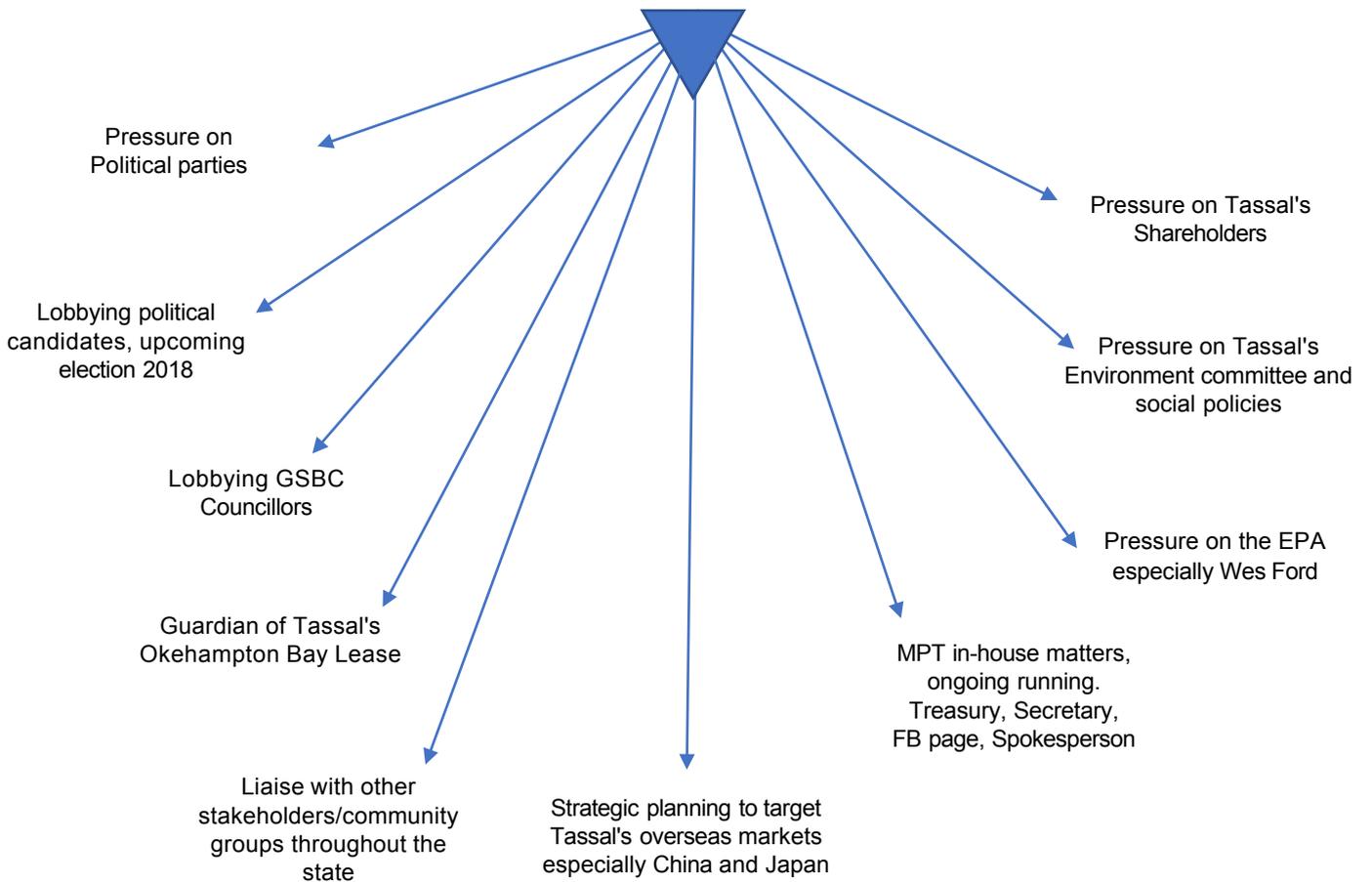
(Refer to the attached chart summarising these future strategies).

Once again thank you everyone for all your hard work and contribution to MPT.

Grant Gaffney

President MPT

**MPT
FUTURE STRATEGIES
COMMITTEE**



Vitally important that individuals/working groups report back to committee on their progress and before actions are implemented.