



# Tesla Forum of Western Australia Inc.

A.B.N. 89 780 321 690

## 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2006

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

#### 1. Introduction

This report is prepared for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Tesla Forum of W.A. Inc. and covers the period since its 2<sup>nd</sup> AGM held on 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2005.

#### 2. Background

Tesla Forum has initially been established as an unincorporated community group that was registered by City of Subiaco WA in November 2003.

On 20 April 2004 Tesla Forum has officially been incorporated as the Western Australian based association.

#### 3. Objectives

The objectives of the Tesla Forum are the following:

- Proclaim the 10th of July as "Nikola Tesla Day" in (Western) Australia.
- Name one park and one of the major streets in Perth after Nikola Tesla.
- Establishment of the Tesla Annual Award for young researchers.
- Promotion of the Tesla's achievements within the general, professional, and academic communities.
- Organization of lectures and exhibitions of the Tesla legacy.
- Development and maintenance of comprehensive web site.
- Collaboration with similar associations worldwide.

#### 4. Membership

Currently Tesla Forum has 45 individual and 5 corporate members.

## 5. Financial Status

The Forum is operating using a good financial practice.

Status of Forum's accounts as of 25 October 2006 is:

- Tesla Forum Account: \$3,086.94
- Tesla Medal Account: \$2,207.58

Other pertinent financial information will be provided by David Sneddon, our Treasurer.

## 6. Tesla Forum's Activities & Achievements

Tesla Forum continued involved in numerous projects and has established good cooperation with professionals and organizations from Australia and overseas.

The major events organized by Tesla Forum in the period since last AGM include the following:

### 6.1 150<sup>th</sup> Nikola Tesla Anniversary Celebration 7-10 July 2006

- **Tesla Play, Octagon Theatre at UWA, 6 July 2006**

The play on the life, amazing personality and opulent work of Nikola Tesla, the Genius of the Twentieth Century and Master of Lightning, as named by some, performed by another genius but of a different art, actor Frank Tabbita (USA).

Frank Tabbita presented Perth audience with exciting and thought-provoking interpretation of Tesla's life story. With his resonant voice and authoritative appearance he captured the audience's attention and held it through the play's entirety. About 700 people attended the play including Hon Francis Logan, W.A. Minister for Science.

- **"Nikola Tesla – The Man Who Lit the World", 1-day conference, Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, 7 July 2006**

The conference was an opportunity for 130 participants involved in science to meet, exchange information and experiences and all that in Tesla's honor. The conference featured many interested topics about Nikola Tesla, and topics from modern science.

It was our privilege to have Professor Jasmina Vujic (University of California in Berkeley and Tesla Memorial Society of New York Inc) to chair the Conference and have a keynote speech.

Hon Dr Judy Edwards MLA, Honorary Chairperson of the W.A. wide Steering Committee and Mark de Laeter, General Manager of Western Power (major sponsor of Tesla Celebration) officially opened the Conference.

- **Annual Tesla Dinner / Celebration, Parmelia Hilton Hotel, 8 July 2006**

This year's dinner was bigger and better than ever (135 people attended). The evening was opportunity to reflect on importance of Tesla's inventions for modern science.

Guests were entertained by group of young talented musicians and dancers. Milica Ilic acclaimed WA classical guitarist enchanted guests with her beauty and talent as composer and guitar player. She was assisted by violist Nik Babic and singer Tamara Miletic. Dancers from the Perth Tango Academy spiced the evening with passionate tango dancing.

- **Tesla Bust Unveiling, University of Western Australia, 10 July 2006**

The Hon Dr Judy Edwards MLA unveiled the Nikola Tesla bust designed by Jovan Radanovic, W.A. sculptor at the ceremony held at the University of Western Australia.

The ceremony was attended by Prof J Vujic (Tesla Memorial Society of New York In. & University of California in Berkeley), Prof A Robson, Vice Chancellor (UWA), actor Frank Tabbita (USA), His Excellency Milivoje Glisic, Ambassador of Serbia, representatives from other universities and professional organizations and many others.

- **"TESLA'S WONDERFUL WORLD OF ELECTRICITY" Exhibition, Western Power's World of Energy in Fremantle WA, 29 September 2006 – 15 October 2006**

The exhibition in Fremantle was only the first of the Belgrade Museum's global tour that will be followed by exhibitions in Vienna, Vancouver BC and Paris.

Complete exhibition material consists of 55 panels with photographs and documents from the Tesla's legacy. The exhibition includes four scaled and five working models.

The Hon Francis Logan MLA, Minister for Science, officially opened the exhibition on behalf of the Western Australian Government, preceded by presentations by Mr Milivoje Glisic, Ambassador of Serbia for Australia and New Zealand; Mr Doug Aberle Managing Director Western Power; Vladimir Jelenkovic, Director of the Nikola Tesla Museum from Belgrade Mr Vujo Knezevic Tesla Forum and Mr John Dowson Deputy Lord Mayor City of Fremantle.

Western Power have advised that the two weeks of Exhibition have been the busiest that they have experienced in any two week period in 14 years that they have record of! They had 3,132 people visit World of Energy during the period 29 September to 15 October inclusive. Of this number, 796 visited during the weekend days when were open from 1 pm to 4 pm.

Tesla Forum was on this occasion presented with the special plaque from the Government of Serbia to recognize Forum's work on promotion of the Tesla's legacy and organisation of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

- **Financing of the Celebration Events**

Tesla Celebration – 6-10 July 2006:

- Donations collected: \$23,900
- Overall income (excl. donations): \$28,188
- Expenses (for the whole celebration) \$50,725
- Profit: **\$1,362**

Tesla Exhibition 29 Sept – 15 Oct 2006:

- Donations collected: \$2,125
- Proceedings from sales (TBC): \$1,000
- Expenses (for the whole celebration) \$8,781
- Tesla Forum's Direct Contribution: **\$5,656**

- **Other Events**

- Tesla Forum has provided the programme for the Tesla Bust Unveiling Ceremony at the Serbian Community Centre for W.A. Inc. in Maddington WA on 9 July 2006.
- Paul Pokorny, Tesla Forum's member, has made the presentation at the Conference dedicated to Nikola Tesla Anniversary at the University of Melbourne VIC on 30 July 2006.

## **6.2 Tesla Medal**

Tesla Forum has the agreement with leading W.A. universities to award the TESLA MEDALS to university students who excel in courses related to Tesla's work. The Medals are awarded together with a cash prize.

- Mr **Christophe Bertrand Chung** from the Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering at the University of Western Australia, was presented with this year's Tesla Medal for the highest grade student in the Electromagnetic Theory.
- Mr **Daniel Aleksandow** the highest mark student in the Experimental Physics Course was presented with the Tesla Medal at the Life Sciences School at the University of Western Australia.
- Mr **Mark Delaney** was the winner of inaugural Tesla medal at the Murdoch University. The award was presented to the best

- graduating student completing a degree in the Bachelor of Engineering in Power Engineering or BSc Physics.
- Mr **Robert Chlubek** is the winner of the 2005 Tesla Medal awarded to the highest grade student in the Electrical Systems Course at the Curtin University of Technology.
  - Honorary Tesla Medal was awarded to **Nikola Tesla Museum in Belgrade** for its contribution to promoting the legacy of Nikola Tesla. The Medal was presented to Mr Vladimir Jelenkovic, Museum's Director.

### **6.3 Naming of the Streets in Perth after Nikola Tesla**

- **City of Wanneroo** - Wangara Industrial area

**Tesla Drive** is in construction and its commissioning is expected in early 2007. It has already been included in the 2006 Perth UBD (Street Directory).

- **City of Rockingham** - new General Industrial subdivision

City of Rockingham and Geographic Names Committee of the Department of Land Administration have approved the Tesla Forum's application to name a street in the City after Nikola Tesla. The subdivision is located at the corner of the Patterson Road and Ennis Avenue. This is quite prominent area located near the city centre and beach. The commissioning of the street is expected in late 2007.

### **6.4 Lectures organized by Tesla Forum**

- 2 July 2006 - "Nikola Tesla", Lecture by Prof Dr Jasmina Vujic, at Bonnyrigg Serbian Club, NSW.
- 3 July 2006 - "Nikola Tesla: The Man Who Electrified the World ", Lecture by Prof Dr Jasmina Vujic, at National Measurement Institute & CSIRO Industrial Physics, West Lindfield NSW.
- 9 July 2006 - "Nikola Tesla", Lecture by Prof Dr Jasmina Vujic, at Serbian Community Centre of W.A. Inc, Maddington WA.

### **6.5 International Nikola Tesla Day - proposal to United Nations**

Tesla Forum has received an extraordinary support for its proposal to United Nations to proclaim the 10th of July (Tesla's birthday) to be an **International Nikola Tesla Day**.

Our proposal submitted to Kofi Annan, Secretary General, was supported by official letters of support from:

- Hon John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia
- Hon. Dr Geoff Gallop, Premier of Western Australia
- University of Western Australia
- Curtin University
- Murdoch University
- Tony Ianello, MD of Western Power
- Paul Nicholls, Director of Scitech
- Janice Lake, Executive Director of Engineers Australia WA Division.
- Serbian Academy of Science and Arts
- Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts
- Serbian Ministry of Science and Environment
- Office for Foreign Affairs Montenegro
- Mrs Robin McClellan, US Consul General in Perth

## **6.6 Cooperation with other organizations**

### **2004/2005 – “Ambassadors for Science” project**

Tesla Forum is one of the inaugural participants in the “Ambassadors for Science” project, the project initiated by SciTech Discovery Centre and the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Office of Science & Innovation. As part of this program, the scientists from Tesla Forum are made available to talk about their science careers during the year on several occasions. This initiative is an important step in bridging the communication gap that exists between science organizations, schools and the general public in Western Australia.

Tesla Forum is represented in this program by Dr Nenad Kolibas and Dr Zoran Bozic, both from Western Power Corporation, Perth WA.

### **16 August 2005 – “Brain Break” – National Science Week 2005 - Breakfast in Northbridge**

Tesla Forum has been invited and participated with other science-based organizations all over Western Australia in the National Science Week events. This year’s “Brain Break” breakfast / morning was held in the Guildford Village Tea Rooms in Guildford WA.

Great work done by the Tesla Forum’s scientists and scientists from many other organisations has been acknowledged including the celebration events for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nikola Tesla.

## **7. Look Ahead**

Tesla Forum of W.A. Inc. has become well recognized organization in the past 3 years. Our results have by far exceeded all expectations, thanks to

extraordinary work of its members and fantastic support from other organizations, institutions and individuals.

Our focus in the following period will be to further consolidate the organization and to maintain ongoing projects.

### **Year 2006/2007**

- Tesla Medals – maintaining the Forum’s profile and exposure to W.A. universities
- Organize Annual 2007 Tesla Day Celebration.
- Consolidation of the Tesla Forum’s operation (organizational, financial, better informing of its members, increased involvement)
- Improved web site design
- Maintaining the existing contacts and cooperation with universities, professional organizations and businesses.
- Maintaining the cooperation with the Nikola Tesla Museum from Belgrade - Serbia, Tesla Memorial Society of N.Y. Inc. and Tesla Society from Swiss.
- Tesla Drive in Wangara - Opening ceremony
- Participate in the 2007 National Science Week
- Ambassadors for Science – continued involvement

### **Long-term**

- Continue lobbying for support to proclaim the International Tesla Day
- Children activity science workshops in schools or during holidays
- Organize presentations and lectures (schools, Canberra Diplomatic Missions, Community Clubs, Rotary Clubs and similar)
- Tesla bust to be erected at Curtin University
- Naming of a park in Perth after Nikola Tesla
- Attracting theatre related to Tesla to Perth

## **8. Acknowledgements**

- Tesla Medal donors: Danica Graphic Design Studio, Perth WA; Dr Boris Martinac & Dragana Zivancevic, Brisbane; Dr Vujo Knezevic & Beverley Knezevic, Perth WA and Ms Bozana Doslov, Perth WA
- Tesla Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee Members: Dr J Edwards, M deLaeter, Prof I Bray, Prof S Islam, Prof T Nguyen, P Nicholls, J Lake, B Havlin
- Tesla Anniversary Co-organizers: Western Power, Scitech, UWA, Curtin University, Murdoch University, Engineers Australia, ABB
- Tesla Celebration Sponsors: Western Power, IBM, Verve Energy, Serbian Community Centre (WA) Inc., ABB, Cooling Towers (W.A.) Pty Ltd, Broad Construction Services Pty Ltd, Borovac Intl Pty Ltd, Hardware Distributors (WA) Pty Inc, ASNA Travel, Danica Graphic design Studio
- Tesla Exhibition Sponsors: Nikola Tesla Museum Belgrade - Serbia; Ministry of Mining and Power Industry of Serbia; Western Power;

World of Energy; Cooling Towers WA Pty Ltd; Borovac International Pty Ltd; Hardware Distributors WA Pty Ltd; Mrs Beverley & Dr Wally Knezevic; Mr Petar Dakic; Mr David Sneddon; Mr Milisav Vasev; Mr Milos Jankovic; Broad Construction Pty Ltd; Mr Vladimir Jovovic; Mrs Bozana Doslov.

- Prof Dr Jasmina Vujic, Tesla Memorial Society of New York Inc. & University of California in Berkeley
- Frank Tabbita (USA)
- His Excellency Mr Milivoje Glisic, Ambassador
- Jovan Radanovic, sculptor, North Perth WA
- Vladimir Jelenkovic, Director, Nikola Tesla Museum Belgrad (Serbia)
- Dragan Simic, web administrator, Perth
- All our members and supporters