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### **Gawler Civic Centre wins multiple excellence awards for architecture and planning**

The Gawler Civic Centre has recently taken out multiple awards for excellence in both architecture and planning. Earlier this year at the 2019 State Architecture Awards, the Gawler Civic Centre won the top gong for Public Architecture and most recently at the 2019 Planning Institute of Australia award night, not one but two awards were bestowed on the innovative centre. The Civic Centre won the Great Place Award and then we were thrilled and honoured when the Minister for Planning awarded his top pick of the night to the Town of Gawler and the Civic Centre.

The Minister's Award is given to the overall winner of the South Australian Awards for Planning Excellence and is judged personally by the Minister for Planning Hon. Stephan Knoll, MP.

Mayor Karen Redman who accepted the awards on behalf of the Town of Gawler said the building represents everything that is great about Gawler and demonstrates what can be achieved when everyone works together to deliver a visionary project.

The way this process has encapsulated cultural heritage, all within a contemporary build and innovative design, says a great deal about us as a community," Mayor Redman said.

"Council is proud of what we have been able to achieve. The new Centre is a game changer for our region and will be an arts and cultural centrepiece of our growing community and contribute to jobs and prosperity. It's open and light, accessible and architecturally, it is beautiful.

It's a wonderful example of best practice in planning to meld together old and new. The architectural renaissance of the Institute and Town Hall to become the Gawler Civic Centre will stand us in good stead for generations to come," said Mayor Redman

Winning the "Great Place Award" judges described the Gawler Civic Centre Redevelopment as "a fantastic example of a great place. The redevelopment has created a civic heart that welcomes all of the community, offering both social and commercial opportunities".

It was also a great privilege earlier this year to be awarded the "2019 SA Architecture Award for Public Architecture" Submitted by MPH Architects. The National Architecture Awards is an integrated, hierarchical program resulting in annual awards at National, Chapter (State and Territory) and, in some states, Regional levels.

The judges in this category stated, "The range of community and business facilities includes a gallery, reading room, research centre, business hub, library, multifunctional spaces and a social enterprise café. The adaptive reuse and sensitive integration of two State heritage listed buildings allows for the retention of the heritage fabric of the buildings, while completely reimagining the internal spaces to provide a civic space that is contemporary and welcoming to locals and visitors to the region."



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