Sunday, 22 March 2020

**Operations suspended at the Makers’ Workshop**

The University of Tasmania and Burnie City Council have agreed to suspend operations at the Makers’ Workshop at West Park.

The Makers Workshop is a cultural and tourism hub, and the future home of the University of Tasmania’s presence on the Cradle Coast.

Cradle Coast Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Jim Cavaye said the decision to suspend the operation of the complex was carefully considered and was taken with regret.

““We understand how important the Makers’ Workshop is to our community and the important part it plays in the life of the city of Burnie,” Professor Cavaye said.

“The highest priority for our University has the safety of our students, staff and the wider community.

“We looked at the latest advice from Government and decided we couldn’t be sure about meeting appropriate social distancing given the way the movement of people ebbs and flows at the Makers’ Workshop.”

“We will update the community about future develops as we can.”

The suspension of operations at the Makers’ Workshop means that it will not be open to the public from 5pm today. It coincides with the closure of other Council operations including Burnie Regional Arts and Function Centre, regional art gallery and regional museum.

It also follows the suspension last week of two volunteer programs – both the University’s Makers of Burnie and the Council’s tourism information volunteers.

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