

## MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF THE WESTERN CAPE

One of the Western Cape Government's key priorities is to create an enabling environment in which the economy can grow, and we can create more jobs. The CTICC has, since its inception, been an important partner in helping us achieve our economic goals.



### ALAN WINDE

Premier of the Western Cape

*We commend the CTICC and their staff for their excellence and commitment to the Western Cape Province and look forward to their positive contributions to the province, in the year ahead.*

The theme of this year's annual report, 'Shaping tomorrow, today', ties into our government's commitment to improving the lives of our residents by supporting the creation of new economic opportunities.

In the last decade, the Western Cape has created more than 500 000 jobs, which is why we have the lowest real unemployment rate in South Africa.

The tourism sector has the ability to significantly grow our economy and the CTICC, as a world leader in conferencing and business tourism, plays a major part in the further development of tourism in our province.

The City of Cape Town has been named the events capital of Africa and, as government, we are committed to maintaining that status. For me, this means creating a business-friendly environment that embraces innovation and all the technological advancements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution because once we do, there is tremendous room for development and further job creation in all catalytic sectors.

The CTICC has not only been a driver for both direct and indirect job creation in our province but, by opening its supply chain to small businesses, has also contributed tremendously to the development of the SMME sector in our province.

Despite the low ebbs of our national economy and other economic headwinds, the CTICC has remained profitable year-on-year.

Suffice to say, the CTICC continues to make extraordinary strides when it comes to building a sustainable business and creating extraordinary experiences. By making travel simpler for tourists, doing business easier and faster, and offering conferencing that is seamless from arrival to departure, the centre is the perfect example of an innovative venue.

We commend the CTICC and their staff for their excellence and commitment to the Western Cape Province and look forward to their positive contributions to the province, in the year ahead.

### Alan Winde

Premier of the Western Cape