



INJECTION: Premier David Bartlett (right) announces a further \$1 million in funding for The Makers' Workshop with Burnie Mayor Alwyn Boyd. Picture: Grant Wells.

Boost for iconic Burnie project

By ANTHONY HANEVEER

AN EXTRA million dollars in State Government funding will add "all the bells and whistles" to Burnie's Makers' Workshop.

Premier David Bartlett announced the funding yesterday, doubling his government's contribution to the now \$5.35 million project.

With a design aimed at making it one of the Coast's iconic landmarks, the building will house Creative Paper, the Pioneer Village Museum and the visitor information centre.

"The Makers' Workshop won't just be good for the cultural fabric of Burnie; it will help drive the local economy during a time of global uncertainty and will help fill the order books of local companies

so as they can maintain job numbers and investment plans," Mr Bartlett said.

Meanwhile, council general manager Paul Arnold fended off criticism over how the Pioneer Village Museum will be presented within the centre.

"People — locals and tourists alike — will need to come to this building more than once every 10 years, they will need to come here once a month," he said.

In contrast, the extra funding announced yesterday would enable the centre to showcase an ever-changing menu of interactive exhibits, Mr Arnold said.

Construction is expected to begin over the next few weeks, with the centre to open September-October.

Precinct 'prime spot for hotel'

"BURNIE is the place to invest and it will stay that way", the council's general manager Paul Arnold believes.

In spite of a looming recession, Mr Arnold is confident the city will continue to attract investment.

With more vacant land to be opened up in the West Park precinct, with the Burnie Bowls Club to move to new facilities and an adjacent building to be demolished, the council believes the area will be ripe for a hotel development.