

Acceptance Speech by Marta Dusseldorp on behalf of her late grandfather , Dick Dusseldorp AO

I'd like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land where we are meeting tonight : the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.

My grandfather DickDusseldorp was not one for seeking accolades.

But I know he would have been extremely proud to be recognised by the Property Council of Australia, especially in the company of Ray Powys and Frank Lowy.

Throughout his working life my grandfather believed in "sustainability" long before the term was a catchcry.

From the 1960s he was stressing the need to balance economic, social and environmental imperatives and I believe it's this vision that is seen by many as his lasting legacy.

Dick was an innovator--(which for me as a kid meant running around the first revolving Restaurant in Sydney at the top of Australia Square).

He set new standards, not only in building, but also in worker relations. As he said: "Caring" and "Sharing", practiced in good faith, are powerful in their impact, particularly when productivity gain is seen, not as a goal in itself, but as a means to enhance life for all."

When Dick retired from Lend Lease in 1988 he founded the Dusseldorp Skills Forum. This Foundation invests in the future generations of Australians through increasing opportunities for education and training. It continues as a living testament to his principles and vision: for a more productive and socially just future for all people.

Many here tonight knew Dick as a pioneer, a visionary, some might say a maverick.

I knew him as my grandfather and it is in that capacity I accept this award on behalf of our family.

Thank you for honouring him tonight.