

28 March 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

IBA supports increased corporate involvement in Indigenous economic development

The general manager of Indigenous Business Australia, Mr Ron Morony, congratulates Royal Flying Doctor Service chief executive Nigel Milan's suggestion that corporate Australia needs to work harder to tackle Indigenous disadvantage.

IBA is a commercially focused organisation and has been encouraging corporate Australia to be more active in this area of supporting Indigenous economic development. Mr Morony said that IBA have pioneered a number of approaches to involving the Indigenous community and the private sector in investment partnerships that encourage Indigenous Australians to participate in the mainstream economy.

"By bringing industry and Indigenous communities together as partners, we create local and sustainable businesses and jobs. Our direct investment in these arrangements allows us to provide intensive support to our Indigenous partners."

Mr Morony said that IBA's vision is for a nation in which Indigenous Australians share equitably in commercial and economic outcomes.

"I want future Indigenous generations to live in better circumstances than current generations. If Indigenous Australians are to have the same opportunities as other Australians, we need to remove the obstacles that prevent them from creating wealth, accumulating assets and fulfilling their aspirations," he said.

Mr Morony also highlighted that IBA was encouraged by the strong emphasis that Minister Jenny Macklin has in this area and will continue developing initiatives to bring Indigenous Australians and the private sector together.

"IBA and the Minister are committed to working with our partners in corporate Australia who are supportive of our vision and our approach to Indigenous economic development."

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