



Australian Government
Indigenous Business Australia

18 November 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

IBA increases presence in Mt Isa area

Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) has celebrated increasing its presence in the Mt Isa region with a function held Tuesday evening at the Red Earth Hotel.

IBA views the Mt Isa region as an important area of growth with the enormous wealth of the mining and associated service industries providing business development and employment opportunities for Indigenous people.

General Manager Ron Morony said that IBA is aware of untapped Indigenous economic development potential in and around Mt Isa.

“We appointed Pat Williamson as a senior economic development officer in July this year to support business development and explore further opportunities,” Mr Morony said.

Pat Williamson will be based in Mt Isa and travel regularly to locations from Mornington Island in the gulf to Birdsville in the south.

IBA also held a workshop with existing and prospective Indigenous business people and mining industry representatives to:

- provide information from companies in the region on their respective procurement processes for goods and services and forecasts for contract opportunities over the next twelve months
- provide Indigenous clients with an overview of contract work with mines and associated service industries.
- provide opportunities for company representatives and Indigenous business operators to network

“IBA plays an important role in assisting Indigenous people and community organisations to build assets and wealth so that future generations of Indigenous Australians can live in better circumstances than the current,” Mr Morony said.

IBA provides a range of services and products that help Indigenous Australians create wealth and build assets for current and future generations.

“Our role is to look for commercial solutions to enable Aboriginal participation in the mainstream economy.”

“IBA’s range of support services include business and home loans, business mentoring, policy support and advice, investment and equity partnerships and construction capabilities,” Mr Morony concluded.

Please note: photo and interview opportunities are available at the Workshop from 9am to 5pm and from 5.30pm to 7pm at the function on Tuesday 18 November onsite at the Red Earth Hotel 16 West St, Mount Isa.

Media contact: Daniel Hughes 02 6121 2731, 0427 011 938 or daniel.hughes@iba.gov.au



5th Floor Bonner House West, Neptune St, Woden ACT 2606 | PO Box 38 Woden ACT 2606
Phone (02) 6121 2700 | Fax (02) 6121 2730 | www.iba.gov.au | ABN: 25 192 932 833