

20 March 2009

## MEDIA RELEASE

## IBA leading the way for Indigenous home ownership and business success in Queensland

IBA Deputy General Manager Craig Dalzell stated at the Brisbane Office reopening, that the IBA is making solid achievements despite the economic downturn.

"IBA believes strongly in the importance of home ownership to Indigenous Australians for furthering their economic and social well being.

"IBA currently has 948 active home loans in Queensland to the value of \$146 million. This is out of total portfolio of 3,370 loans with a total value of \$541 million.

"This year to date, there has been 41 approvals to the value of \$8.6 million, with a further 39 applicants in the process of looking for, or purchasing a home.

IBA also provides financial and business support to Indigenous Australian's looking to get into business or develop an existing business.

"IBA's Brisbane office currently administers 47 business loans totalling \$5.7 million and has assisted 181 business support clients (86 pre-start up and 95 post start up), to the value of \$994,000," said Mr Dalzell.

"IBA invests in commercial enterprises across Australia with equity partners that are both Indigenous and private sector. These partnerships enable an asset base to be built for IBA and for its Indigenous partners.

"Last year IBA purchased the iconic Holiday Inn Townsville, providing a fantastic prospect to involve Indigenous partners in a joint venture ownership structure that represents a truly commercial and active investment.

"It is the strength of these outcomes in the Brisbane area which has resulted in the recent relocation to new premises in the Brisbane CBD," Mr Dalzell concluded.

IBA plays a vital 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.

The range of services and products include business and home loans, business mentoring, policy support and advice, construction capabilities and investment and equity partnerships.

Please note: photo and interview opportunity available at the Office Launch held at a morning tea, 10am on Friday 20 March on-site at level 13, 144 Edward Street, Brisbane.

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

