



Australian Government
Indigenous Business Australia

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MEDIA RELEASE

IBA reports a successful year

Last night Indigenous Business Australia's (IBA) 2007-08 annual report received a Bronze in the Australasian Reporting Awards Inc. (ARA) *General Award Category*.

This is not the first time IBA's annual report has received ARA recognition. In 2007 IBA received a Bronze in the *Chairman's Award for the Best First-Time Entry*.

IBA General Manager Ron Morony considers the annual report to be an important tool to communicate and build confidence in IBA and its objectives with stakeholders.

"Each year we aim to improve our delivery of practical and valuable information to our stakeholders and entering our annual report in the ARA Awards process assists us to measure one aspect of our success in that pursuit," he said.

In a strong field, IBA's annual report was judged alongside entries from Australian and New Zealand corporations, government agencies and not-for-profit organisations.

Gold, Silver and Bronze awards are presented to honour the organisations that satisfy, to differing degrees, the specific ARA criteria. How well each annual report presents the organisation's purpose, achievements and key events of the year, together with valid and objective performance measures is assessed.

"I wanted our report to clearly communicate who we are, what we do, how we do it and our achievements and I think receiving a Bronze in the *General Award Category* reflects the direction we are heading," Mr Morony said.

The Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs said the following on review of IBA's 2007-08 annual report:

"IBA's comprehensive performance overview is well presented with detailed summaries relating to output groups supported by clearly set out graphs, tables and charts. Case studies are also included. A further section of the report provides details of other significant achievements across program areas which particularly relate to economic development".

Following the success reported in the 2007-08 annual report, IBA has experienced ongoing success in Indigenous economic development throughout the 08-09 financial year.

As at April 2009, IBA's investment portfolio grew by 20 per cent and now totals approximately \$200 million; IBA had 334 active business loans to the value of \$55 million and 3386 active home loans to the value of \$545 million.

Creating employment is seen as a key pathway to *Closing the Gap* on Indigenous disadvantage. Through IBA's commercially focused operations there have been over 1,000 jobs created or supported, of which 366 were filled by Indigenous Australians.

To read IBA's award winning 2007-08 annual report and find out how IBA is contributing to a better future for Indigenous Australians please visit www.iba.gov.au or call 1800 107 107

To read more about the ARA please visit www.dev.arawards.com.au

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