



Australian Government
Indigenous Business Australia

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MEDIA RELEASE

Indigenous Business Australia's Chair welcomes new CEO

The IBA Chair Dr Dawn Casey has announced the appointment of Mr Chris Fry as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indigenous Business Australia.

Dr Casey has welcomed Mr Fry to his new role stating that she is looking forward to working with him to continue to build upon the achievements that the organisation has made in Indigenous economic development.

"The past 12 months has seen many advancements that I am looking for IBA to build upon with Mr Fry as CEO and continue the organisation's positive contribution toward Indigenous economic participation.

IBA's Homes program continues as a successful Indigenous housing initiative by the Government having assisted over 14,000 Indigenous families into housing since its establishment in 1975 and reducing the waiting list for the much sought after home loan product by over 40% in this financial year.

IBA's Business development program has been reviewed in consultation with stakeholders and strengthened. IBA is rolling out nationwide *In to Business Workshops* designed to help Indigenous Australians better plan for their business and increase their likelihood of success.

IBA's Investment program is in an acquisition phase with a number of joint ventures in the pipeline that will provide opportunities for asset ownership, wealth accumulation and employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians.

"The organisation has made significant advances in the last year including improved stakeholder relations and internal governance arrangements, which will help us better meet the needs of our clients in the future," Dr Casey said.

Mr Fry the former National Manager of the National Australia Bank's Agribusiness Wealth Planning team, has an extensive history with the Bank, working in various roles in Melbourne, Armidale, Corowa, Wagga Wagga, and Deniliquin.

Mr Fry has a long standing interest and involvement in Indigenous Affairs, for example being Chair of the Indigenous Land Corporation's Mossman Gorge Development Steering Committee and having a five week secondment to the Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation in Kununurra.

Mr Fry holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics from the University of New South Wales, a Master of Applied Finance from Charles Sturt University, is a fellow of the



Australian Institute of Banking and is a member of the Australian Agricultural Science Institute.

Dr Casey would like to acknowledge the efforts of the interim CEO Mr Bruce Gemmell.

“Mr Gemmell’s efforts have developed and improved the operations of IBA as an organisation.

“IBA is well placed to ensure the new CEO has a smooth transition into the role,” Dr Casey concluded.

IBA is a statutory authority which provides home loans, business loans and specialised commercial investments for Indigenous Australians.

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