

MEDIA RELEASE – 13th October 2017

Boosting regional economies high on the agenda

Tapping into new tourism, mining and agriculture opportunities in the regions was high on the agenda when the Regional Development Australia (RDA) Townsville and North West Queensland Committee visited Boulia last week.

RDA Acting Chair Frank Beveridge said holding RDA committee meetings in towns like Boulia provided valuable one-on-one time with local leaders and stakeholders.

“Our RDA covers 15 Local Government areas, so it’s important that we hold our committee meetings in different places to see first-hand the challenges and opportunities faced by each community.”

The committee also attended tourism presentations by the Outback Queensland Tourism Association and Tourism and Events Queensland, which showed how regions are attracting more tourists and encouraging them to stay longer.

RDA CEO Glenys Schuntner said drive tourism is relevant to all areas of outback Queensland.

“The Federal Government’s funding commitments to seal more sections of the Outback Way will provide a much needed boost to rural and regional tourism,” Ms Schuntner said.

Mayor of Boulia Rick Britton said the RDA meeting provided an opportunity to highlight regional opportunities.

“The town of Boulia is already prepared ahead of a potential mining boom in the region, as we have a general rating system for mining, plus the opportunity for Channel Country to deliver natural grass fed beef to Live Export the North & Process Beef to East.

RDA Townsville and North West Queensland covers 15 Local Government areas – Boulia, Burdekin, Burke, Carpentaria, Charters Towers, Cloncurry, Doomadgee, Flinders, Hinchinbrook, McKinlay, Mornington, Mount Isa, Palm Island, Richmond and Townsville.

For further information go to: www.rdanwq.org.au

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