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MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Regions Rising to strengthen and connect regional businesses

Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland (RDA) will host a series of events aimed at connecting and strengthening regional businesses featuring rugby league legend Johnathan Thurston and Townsville-born Olympic gold medalist, beach volleyball star Natalie Cook.

The Regions Rising events will be held in Charters Towers, Cloncurry, Hughenden, and Normanton in the last week of November and will link regional businesses with industry professionals and government services.

RDA CEO Wayde Chiesa said it was critical regional businesses were aware of relevant government support available to them and wanted to ensure they were able to access those services regardless of their location.

“During recent visits to the regions RDA became aware of the need to facilitate connections between regional businesses and industry and government bodies to help these businesses boom,” he said.

“The Small Business Expo will bring together experts in business planning, marketing and accounting to provide advice to these businesses in a relaxed environment and the dinner event will allow further networking and help local businesses form stronger connections.”

“We’re bringing along our fantastic speakers to ensure the night is a great success. We are really looking forward to hearing from Johnathan Thurston and Natalie Cook as they share their experiences and the highs and lows of their journey.”

Representatives from NBN, Smart Precinct NQ, ATO, the North Queensland Manufacturing Hub, the Department of Employment, Training and Small Business, and Business Station amongst others will be on hand to advise attendees and answer any questions.

Regions Rising will be held in Charters Towers on Monday, November 22, in Hughenden on Wednesday, November 24, Cloncurry on Thursday, November 25 and Normanton on Friday, November 26. For more information and to book your seat for dinner see the www.rdanwg.org.au.

RDA Committee Chair and Charters Towers Regional Council Mayor Frank Beveridge said the locations were chosen to ensure a good coverage across the North West region and dependent on funding hoped more locations could be added in 2022.

“We think these events are an excellent way to bring groups of regional business owners together to allow them to speak straight to the experts,” he said.



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“Part of the difficulty of operating a business in the regions is the lack of access to services and awareness of any available support and RDA are focused on ensuring these businesses are kept informed of these economic opportunities.”

“I know in the Charters Towers region many businesses are busy with day-to-day operations and just don’t have the time to research or pursue available government support.”

Regions Rising is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

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Media opportunity:

With Johnathan Thurston, Frank Beveridge and Wayde Chiesa

Thursday, November 4, 10am, ANZAC Park, The Strand.

**Regions
Rising**
Helping Businesses Boom



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