

*Media statement*

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30 October 2015

### **New Chairman to build on Ports North regional strengths**

Addressing the new Ports North Board for the first time today, incoming Chairman Russell Beer acknowledged Ports North as a major contributor to the North Queensland economy and he very much looked forward to leading the organisation in its future development.

“Ports North’s nine ports generate more than \$2 billion annually for the Far North Queensland economy and account for 13 per cent of employment in the region,” he said.

“It is critical that we continue to identify opportunities to strengthen the economic development prospects for Far North Queensland including developing new trade and business opportunities and grow existing business to provide value to the region.”

Mr Beer also welcomed the appointment of Mr Michael Huelin and Ms Victoria Cuda as Directors to the Ports North Board.

“Mr Huelin, a Partner of Williams Graham Carman Solicitors, is highly regarded in the areas of commercial and property law and his appointment will be a great asset to the Board,” Mr Beer said.

“The Board will be further strengthened with Ms Victoria Cuda, a chartered accountant, and Director of Anue Commercial, bringing skills in the finance and commercial areas.”

Mr Beer took the opportunity to thank outgoing Chairman, Brett Moller and Directors Paul Gregory and Rob Macalister.

“Brett, Paul and Rob have made a significant contribution to Ports North’s achievements helping position the organisation for future development of Port assets to benefit the region,” he said.

Ports North is an important regional corporation and the new Board is committed to further growth and strengthening of its vital operations.

**For more information contact:**

**Andree Stephens, Ports North Communications Advisor**

**Tel: (07) 40523815**