

MEDIA INTERVIEW / PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Message sent 17 February 2011

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DATE: Friday 18 February 2011
TIME: 12 noon for interviews prior to the 12.30pm launch event
PLACE: Pacific International Hotel
Cnr Spence Street and The Esplanade
SUBJECT: Launch of TTNQ's Indigenous Employment Program

Eleven Indigenous trainees begin their careers in tourism today.

They have completed their Certificate II in Tourism, have taken up work experience placements and are about to begin their studies for Certificate III in Tourism.

They trainees are the first of 31 to participate in TTNQ's Indigenous Employment Program in association with the Queensland and Australian Governments aimed at boosting the number of Indigenous employees in the local tourism industry.

Rob Giason, CEO of Tourism Tropical North Queensland said "Tourism Tropical North Queensland is committed to promoting and working with industry to build a stronger Indigenous presence within the tourism sector. Anecdotal feedback from industry is that international visitors expect and want to engage with Indigenous Australians. TTNQ sees this program as a tremendous opportunity for tourism locally to do more to give international visitors that quintessential Australian experience but more importantly, provide jobs for Indigenous Australians."

Senator Jan McLucas and Julie Dare representing Department of Employment Economic Development and Innovation will join TTNQ in launching the project.

-Ends-

Interviews will be available with:
Rob Giason CEO Tourism Tropical North Queensland
Senator Jan McLucas
Project mentor Trevor Timm and the 11 graduates.
Work experience employers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Stevie King Ph 4015 1207