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MEDIA RELEASE

Early Bird Registration Now Available For Inaugural Investment Conference

The inaugural Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Conference 2010 is now open for delegate registration.

Mackay Whitsunday Regional Economic Development Corporation (REDC) will be hosting the major event to be held from Wednesday 19th May to Friday 21st May, 2010 at the Mackay Grand Suites.

The event aims to bring together regional, national and global stakeholders in business, technology and investments through positive regional economic change.

REDC has recognised the global trend in investment attraction and aims to optimise the potential market of this diverse region. The region's strong local business economy is underpinned by one of the largest coal mining deposits in Australia, a strong agribusiness sector including the nation's second largest sugar producer and the largest winter produce growing region in Australia, along with the world renowned tourism asset - the Whitsunday Islands.

The conference focuses on economic development, investment, infrastructure and policies to stimulate economic growth in the region.

It is a platform on which to share ideas, learn from others and build valuable and lasting partnerships, which targets collaboration between businesses seeking investors and national and international organisations, including Queensland and Australian Government, who are seeking investment opportunities.

The conference agenda incorporates a three day structured programme including:

- Day 1 - Evening cruise welcome function, 19th May, 2010
- Day 2 - Business breakfast, full day conference and dinner, 20th May 2010
- Day 3 - Study tours to Mackay, Whitsundays and Isaac regions, 21st May 2010

Guest speakers and expert panellists will deliver the latest insight into investment opportunities and explore the challenges and opportunities for economic growth and enterprise attraction in the region.

The informative study tours are intended to provide practical insight and factual knowledge of the region's potential for investment and the opportunities available for funding public projects.

The Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Conference 2010 is an exciting opportunity for delegates to experience firsthand the opportunities available in this unique part of Queensland and to build links between businesses that can expand on existing commerce, support industry growth and improve regional infrastructure.

REDC is supported by the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) and works in partnership with industry, business groups, government agencies, councils and other regional organisations interested in progressing employment opportunities, economic growth and community development within the region.

An early bird discounted rate is available if you register before 12th April 2010.

For further information visit www.mwredc.org.au

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Notes

- Located half way between Brisbane and Cairns in Queensland Australia, the vibrant Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region is home to 165,000+ residents who enjoy a relaxed, tropical lifestyle mixed with contemporary services and facilities.
- The three regional government areas host agriculture and mining hubs and is 'the centre of excellence for mining' in conjunction with the local Central Queensland University.
- The Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Region has a projected population growth of 40% by 2020 and is recognised as one of the fastest growing regions in Australia.
- The region generated in excess of \$17.2 billion in economic value in 2008-2009.
- The region's economy remained robust despite the global economic uncertainty and the regional outlook remains positive with more than \$48.7 billion in investment projects recorded at the end of February 2010.