

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Meeting Helps REDC Gain Better Understanding Of Japanese Investor Sentiment

The Regional Economic Development Corporation's (REDC), Regional Investment Attraction Manager, Martin Homisan, was amongst a small number of local representatives to meet with the Japanese Trade Commissioner, Mr Richard Gruppetta recently.

The meeting, which took place at Airlie Beach, was part of a regional visit conducted by the commissioner to provide updates on the Japanese economic and financial situation and also to discuss export, trade and investment opportunities.

Mr Homisan said meeting with the Japanese Trade Commissioner was a worthwhile opportunity for REDC as he could inform the commissioner of upcoming REDC projects and gain a better understanding of Japanese investor sentiment.

"During the meeting I informed the commissioner about regional investment attraction activities including the upcoming Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac 2010 Conference. We also discussed the regional telecommunications master plan."

"Mr Gruppetta provided attendees with a better understanding of the current investor sentiment in Japan following the Global Financial Crisis." Mr Homisan said.

Mr Homisan said that it promising to hear that investment opportunities may exist within the Japanese market.

"Investment opportunities such as modular housing could be possible in the future and Japanese construction companies are said to be interested in the construction methods used to build cyclone proof houses as this is comparable to the earthquake proofing requirements of Japan."

The Regional Investment Attraction Project covers the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region and aims to provide a co-ordinated strategic approach to investment attraction for the region.

-ENDS-

#### Media Contact

Ashleigh Howland      4953 2655

