



MEDIA RELEASE

New association to support progress on GKI

Community leaders from across the Keppel region have come together to form a new association to progress the conversation about the future of Great Keppel Island.

Association President Ross O'Reilly, owner of Beaches Restaurant and High Valley Dawn Permaculture Farm, said: "The goals of the association are to:

- Increase awareness of the GKI Revitalisation Project and correct misinformation in the community.
- Give a voice to GKI Stakeholders including traditional owners, island landowners and local businesses and bring the community into the conversation.
- Monitor and provide input into the spend of taxpayer funds on Great Keppel Island.
- Help create a stronger future and economic recovery in the Central Queensland region."

Mr O'Reilly continued: "The association is a chance for all stakeholders in the community to be involved, have a voice and get a greater understanding of the current opportunity we have for our region."

"Progress on Great Keppel Island is not only important for island residents and business owners, its critical to the whole of Central Queensland."

"Since the old resort closed in 2008, we have all been waiting for the return of the jobs for our young people and the growth prospects for local industries such as hospitality, construction and manufacturing as well as tourism."

"We have been getting to know the Altum team better and understand their vision for the island. It's a vision we believe fits closely with what the region needs. It's great they are regional Queenslanders too." Altum Property Group has a contract to purchase the Great Keppel Island leases from current owner Tower Holdings.

The association is launching their community membership at a Public Forum on Monday 8th February, 5.30pm at Beaches Restaurant Rosslyn Bay. Registrations are required and attendees will be able to ask questions in advance which will be answered by the association committee and Altum. Registrations are via an Event on the association's Facebook page: GKI Progress Association, Inc.

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