

President's Monthly Report – November 2007

I advised members last month of my absence in November and early December. My business has taken me to a number of communities in Far North Queensland running workshops with Indigenous people on Frontline Management. This has proven to be a very informative trip for me in particular the enthusiasm shown by a number of Indigenous groups to look at economic opportunities though business development. There is a great interest in setting up small business ventures in most of the communities that I have visited and all are keen to know about our Chamber and how we can assist their endeavours.

So, my apologies to those of you who have tried to contact me during this time. My travels will be completed by mid December, though I am still contactable on my mobile and via email.

Events

Well, I would like to congratulate our Secretariat and all members and guests for joining us on a very special night of celebrations. The South East Queensland Indigenous Chamber of Commerce reached its first milestone in November being its 1st Anniversary. Twelve months in operation is a terrific achievement and I would like to thank everyone who made this possible.

A big thank you to Don Cameron for his kind words and Paul MacDonald from Commerce Queensland. Also a big thank you to the event sponsors:

- South Bank Corporation
- Bridgeworks Employment and Training
- Karma Lifestyles; and the
- Willmet Group

I have had terrific feedback from guests who attended the event at the Rydges Southbank. Thank you Justin and Christine for organizing the John Nicol band and also our guest performer, comedian Sean Choolburra. We will have many more years to celebrate, I'm sure.

Conclusion

Membership continues to grow though if you know of an Indigenous business who is not yet involved with the Chamber, please provide details to our Secretariat to follow up.

Once again, welcome to our new members this month. It is great to have you on board. I encourage each of you to take a very proactive role with us, getting involved and participating in our events and projects can only improve business for you and the Chamber.

In closing, I encourage you all to get behind the Chamber by joining as a member, event or corporate sponsor and coming to our events.

Don't forget the strategic planning day on Sunday 9th December 2007. Please contact Christine or Justin for the details if you wish to attend.

Finally, on behalf of the SEQICC I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Charlie Jia

SEQICC President