

## REGIONAL TOURISM CHIEF TO LEAVE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

After six years of overseeing the region's tourism growth, Mackay Isaac Tourism Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Tas Webber has advised his resignation from the organisation.

Mackay Isaac Tourism acting chair, Cr Justin Englert, said while the Board is sad to see Mr Webber go, they readily understand his desire to further his career and has accepted his resignation.

"Tas has been a fierce advocate for tourism in the Mackay Isaac region for many years and has implemented a number of initiatives to make the region stronger," Cr Englert said.

"Tas has been offered an exciting new position in Brisbane and he leaves with the Board's blessing," Mr Englert said.

Cr Englert said organisational renewal is common after six years and although Mr Webber's drive and passion will be missed, it is a great opportunity for Mackay Isaac Tourism to refresh.

"New ideas, new approaches and new thinking are a critical element of strong organisations, and we will take this opportunity to look forward to the next phase of the region's tourism growth under a new CEO," Cr Englert said.

Mr Webber said he is sad to leave the region he loves but he is satisfied with many of his achievements.

"Prior to the pandemic, the Mackay region recorded 13 consecutive quarters of visitation growth," Mr Webber said.

"One of our most recent achievements was the formal partnership with Isaac Regional Council which led to the renaming of our organisation to Mackay Isaac Tourism. I also think the building of relationships with Keswick Island has been extremely significant and there is more in this space to come," Mr Webber said.

"The lobbying and support work we did with the State Government and Red Cat Adventures to create the Wildcat product in Mackay will also have a long-lasting impact for the region," Mr Webber said.

Cr Englert said recruitment for a new CEO will commence immediately, with an interim executive officer expected to be announced within days. Mr Webber will officially finish on 20th May and an industry function will be held to acknowledge Mr Webber's contributions.













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