

## REVITALISATION PROJECT TO COMMENCE AT PORTSIDE CENTRE

Mayor of Bundaberg, Councillor Mal Forman, joined Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) at the Bundaberg Regional Council on Friday 30 November, in **congratulating** Maryborough's **Portside Centre** on **their determination for improvement and revitalisation**. Portside Centre is part of the Queensland Heritage Trails Network located next to the beautiful Queens Park and the Mary River. It features three heritage-listed buildings including Customs House, Customs Sub-Collectors Residence and the Bond Store.

M&GSQ's Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said today,

"Maryborough's Portside Centre is to be commended for its achievements during its year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Program and for their plans to revitalise Customs House".

According to M&GSQ's Standards Program Reviewers, Leanne Kelly and Steve Chaddock, industry experts who played a vital role in providing pro bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program:

"It was clear to the Reviewers that the staff and volunteers demonstrate a high level of commitment to the Portside Centre as a whole. It is a professional operation that presents well and runs very smoothly."

The Reviewers praised Fraser Coast Regional Council staff for the high standards of museum practice already achieved by this heritage attraction. The Portside Centre reveals the history of the Port of Maryborough and how the City developed around the Port. Located in an historic area of Maryborough renowned for its wonderful heritage buildings, The Centre is a gateway experience for visitors to the city and further afield into the region.

M&GSQ's Standards Program supports collecting museums and galleries to build skills and capacity, plan for a sustainable future, identify strategic priorities for improvement, develop an action plan and ensure the safeguarding and accessibility of these collections for their communities.

**The museum's profile is attached.**

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**IMAGE CAPTION**

**Image 1** – Mayor of Bundaberg Mal Forman presents a Certificate of Recognition to Maryborough’s Portside Centre represented by Susan Rogers, Senior Arts and Cultural Officer with the Fraser Coast Regional Council.

**Acknowledgement – Photo Paul Beutel**

**MEDIA RELEASE END**