



media release

5 DECEMBER FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR WONDERFUL CULTURAL VENUE

Mayor Peter Scott joined Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) in congratulating NATURE'S POWERHOUSE, a purpose-built facility containing a Visitor Information Centre, the Charles Tanner Gallery, the Vera Scarth-Johnson Gallery, a café and a gift shop situated within the heritage listed Cooktown Botanic Gardens.

At the Cook Shire Council Chambers on Thursday 1 December, the Mayor heard of the centre's achievements and their plans for achieving more effective use of the galleries and overall space at Nature's Powerhouse arising from their year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Program.

According to M&GSQ's Standards Program Reviewers, Elizabeth Bates and Ross Searle, industry experts who played a vital role in providing pro bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program:

"It was very obvious that there is an ongoing commitment to making Nature's Powerhouse work for both the local community and for visitors. This is shown through the large number of community members who care about the future of the centre. Other areas of note were the exceptional museum-standard storage facilities made available to the Vera Scarth-Johnson Collection, and the passion and diligence of the committee that oversees this Collection. It was also noticed that the centre offered excellent customer service to all visitors, including tours of the adjoining historical Botanic Gardens, a delightful café and full visitor services."

David Barker, Tourism Coordinator, Cook Shire Council, explained what they had gained by participating in the Standards Program:

"The Standards Program has brought together all stakeholders in Nature's Powerhouse to form a shared vision for the future direction of the facility."

The centre's profile is attached.

For media enquiries and to obtain print quality images of the museum and the presentation, please contact:

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IMAGE CAPTION

Image 1 – Mayor Peter Scott presents a Certificate of Recognition to (L to R) David Barker, Sian Nivison, Jean Stephan, Jacqui Sykes and Bev Grant representing Nature’s Powerhouse.

Acknowledgement – Photo Vanessa Gillen

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