



## media release

5 DECEMBER FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY, ART AND FENG SHUI COMBINE IN REMARKABLE SITE**

Mayor Tom Gilmore joined Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) in congratulating ATHERTON CHINATOWN, which includes the Hou Wang Temple - the only surviving original timber and iron Chinese Temple in Australia and New Zealand- and its newest addition, Hans Pehl's spectacular red dragon.

At the Atherton Council Chambers on Friday 2 December, the Mayor heard of the museum's achievements and their plans arising from their year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Program to develop a collections register to improve collection management and disaster preparedness.

According to M&GSQ's Standards Program Reviewers, Christine Ianna and Lisa Jones, industry experts who played a vital role in providing pro bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program:

"Atherton Chinatown and Hou Wang Temple set an admirable example of a facility looking to continually improve its operations for both volunteers and visitors. The manager, volunteers and committee members should be proud of the overall presentation of the museum, its gardens, the temple, its public sculptures and the interpretation of the site overall. The group's willingness to better connect with the local community is also to be commended."

Rhonda Micola, Manager of Atherton Chinatown, explained that the reviewers had helped her address an issue she had been concerned about for some time and summed up the program's outcome:

"The Standards Program has provided access to a more comprehensive and accountable approach to collection management. This will help us to look after our significant objects in a more informed fashion."

**The museum'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 Tom Gilmore presents Certificate of Recognition to Rhonda Micola, Atherton Chinatown.

**Acknowledgement – Photo Michael Marzik**

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