

# CENTRAL QUEENSLAND NEWS

## FRIDAY 28 APRIL 2017

### Group will drive new strategy

Seven representatives to help grow, promote region

THE appointment of an expert Strategic Advisory Group will drive the new Central Highlands Accelerate Agribusiness (CHAA) initiative to grow, promote and realise the value and opportunities for all businesses producing agricultural and food products, processing and providing other value-adding services in the Central Highlands.

Following a comprehensive selection process, the Central Highlands Development Corporation (CHDC) appointed six members to the group: Fleur Anderson, James Clark, Ian McCamley, Paul Murphy, Warwick Powell, and Taylor Pressler. Central Highlands Mayor and CHDC Chair Kerry Hayes said collectively, the "respected individuals bring strong expertise in grain, cotton, beef and horticulture, domestic and international supply chain

systems, market development and trade, and digital technologies."

"The group's great strengths will be the diversity of its members' skills, experience and networks and their shared passion to drive the region forward," Cr Hayes said.

The group will be chaired Cr Hayes and includes CHDC Agribusiness Development Coordinator Liz Alexander.

Appointed in February this year, the group have already met for a full day's meeting and tele-conference.

"We've hit the ground running and it is clear that we've pulled together a dynamic and ambitious leadership team that will work hard to ensure our region is well prepared to overcome the challenges and capitalise on the opportunities ahead," Cr Hayes said.



THE FUTURE OF CENTRAL HIGHLANDS: Seven local experts have been appointed as the Strategic Advisory Group for the new Central Highlands Accelerate Agribusiness (CHAA) initiative. PHOTO: GREG KAUTER



Kerry Hayes

CHDC Chairman, and Central Highlands Mayor Kerry Hayes will chair the advisory group. Mr Hayes grew up on the family's farms in Capella, Emerald and Anakie. Mr Hayes' working life started in Emerald as a livestock agent. He is managing director and owner of Emerald Land & Cattle, which he founded in 1988. It has grown from a livestock and property business to include real estate, property management and water trading.



Fleur Anderson

RURAL Business Collective founder and 'Community Digital Champion'. Fleur Anderson is passionate about providing regional businesses with digital know-how. Alongside her family's cotton farm at Theodore, Ms Anderson divides time between her roles as Cahoots Group managing director, Queensland GasFields Commission commissioner, and non-executive Cotton Australia board director.



James Clark

JAMES Clark was a Grains Research Development Corporation Northern Panel member from 2005 and Panel Chair between 2008 and 2016. Mr Clark will share his extensive business networks from NSW and Queensland, experience in dryland and irrigated crop production as well as intensive and extensive animal production. Mr Clark will also offer experience from chairman, director and committee positions.



Ian McCamley

IAN MacCamley is a beef producer operating MCC Pastoral north of Rolleston with his wife Kate. MCC Pastoral is Pasturefed Cattle Assurance System (PCAS) and MSA (Meat Standards Australia) accredited, targeting domestic and export markets. Mr MacCamley sits on the MLA Board Director Selection Committee, the AgPore Leasehold Land and Tenure Committee, and the Beef Australia Carcass Committee.



Paul Murphy

AS chairman of Southern Cross Agricultural Exports, Paul Murphy is a significant driver behind the Emerald based company which markets certified sustainable grains and legumes, hay, fresh produce, cotton, animal products to national and international clients. He is also the CEO of Radicle Seeds Australia, dedicated to the research and production of grain varieties specifically bred for the region.



Warwick Powell

WARWICK Powell is the founder and director of Sister City Partners, a not-for-profit regional investment banking enterprise which works to strengthen trade and investment between Chinese and Australian groups and enterprises. He is an adjunct research fellow at James Cook Uni and a director of companies in Australia and Hong Kong, involved in big data analytics, renewable energy and agribusiness.



Taylor Pressler

TAYLOR Pressler is the Product Coordinator and Marketing Assistant for 2PH Farms, an Emerald based business exporting mandarins, lemons and table grapes. 2PH has grown from a small family concern into one of the largest privately owned mandarin orchards in the southern hemisphere. Prior to returning to 2PH, Ms Pressler was a key account manager and agronomist for Lindsay Australia.