

## **Mayor's Speech to Clarence Valley Business Excellence Awards – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

Clarence Valley Council is very pleased be one sponsor and to support this inaugural Clarence Valley Business Excellence Awards event. I have very confidence that Council will continue to support the awards in future years.

These awards are about encouraging and rewarding business excellence, which is so important to the economy of our Valley and to our prosperity now and in the future. They are also about uniting the citizens of the Valley and about moving forward together.

Tonight we witness a dynamic showcase of business commitment, achievement and innovation. On this occasion we are also able to recognise and reward the importance and value of staff, our workers who contribute so much to making Clarence Valley businesses so successful.

These awards highlight and add meaning to the expressions that Clarence Valley is indeed open for business and very much 'on the move'.

May I thank on your behalf Mr Ron Bell for his usual masterly performance as master of ceremonies. Congratulations to all the Award entrants in each of the classifications who made these Awards event possible.

On your behalf I also thank the hard working judges, the major sponsor Wesley Uniting Employment, all the other sponsors, Clarence Valley Community College who assisted in set up the restaurant for this evening, the wonderful band with the great name of 'Two Fellows and a cello' and of course Mark and the staff at Georgie's Restaurant for a magnificent repast.

Much work and effort has been committed by the Awards organising committee under the leadership of Michael Brennan. We sincerely thank you Michael and also your dedicated team of Sue Hughes, Sammy Hunt and John Robson. Well done and thank you so much. To the Valley's Chambers of Commerce and Progress Associations who combined to stage the awards we also express our sincere thanks. Undoubtedly the inaugural Clarence valley Business excellence Awards have been a resounding success. May the event continue to grow and become a highlight on the Valley's annual calendar of events. Thank you to everyone involved. Well done.

Good evening and a safe trip home.

Ian Tiley  
Mayor  
Clarence Valley Council  
14<sup>th</sup> April 2007