

## Media Release No. 592

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## TSRA BOARD MEMBER RETURNS FROM AUSTRALIAN RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Member for Erub, Kenny Bedford, graduated from Course 20 of the Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP) in Darwin on 19 September.

The ARLP Courses is a 59-day program, delivered in six sessions over 17 months in Australia's rural areas with one overseas component.

TSRA Chairman, Mr Joseph Elu, congratulated Kenny on successfully completing the latest ARLP course as they call for applicants to apply for Course 22 of the program.

"Each year, the TSRA invests \$55,000 into one participant on the ARLP Courses, most recently sponsoring Erub Member Kenny Bedford," Mr Elu said.

"We are currently calling for applicants to apply for ARLP Course 22 which will commence in May next year.

"The program is targeted towards leaders who are committed to extending their knowledge, understanding and capabilities in order to be more effective and influential."

TSRA Member for Erub, Kenny Bedford, said the Program delivered a very valuable range of experiences and opportunities for personal leadership examination and growth.

"I am very privileged to have been a part of Course 20 and am grateful for the close friendships and network that remains," Mr Bedford said.

"I'd like to thank the TSRA as my sponsor and My Pathway for their employment support of my participation."

ARLP participants vary with leaders from various government and non-government sectors such as agriculture, agribusiness, fishing, forestry, and all mining and quarrying industries.

Mr Elu said they have sponsored at least 40 people from the Torres Strait on various programs within the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF).

"In addition to the yearly sponsorship of an ARLP participant, the TSRA continually supports local Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people for a number of similar programs," Mr Elu said

"Other programs in conjunction with the ARLF include the Torres Strait Young Leaders Program (TSYLP), Training Rural Australians In Leadership (TRAIL) and the TSRA Women's Leadership Program.

"Applications for the 2015 TSYLP and TRAIL programs open in October 2014 and the application forms can be found in the Leadership Capacity Building section of the TSRA website."

For more information on TSRA's Leadership programs, please contact the TSRA on 4069 0700 or email info@tsra.gov.au

**ENDS**TSRA Media Contact – Bruce Nelson on 0423 403 449



(I-r) TSRA Chair Joseph Elu, Member for Erub Kenny Bedford and TSRA CEO Wayne See Kee



(I-) ARLF Chairperson Dr Wendy Craik, TSRA Member for Erub Kenny Bedford and ARLF Patron Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery