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TSRA CONGRATULATES LATEST ROUND OF MARINE PATHWAYS GRADUATES

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) has congratulated the latest round of graduates from the Torres Strait Marine Pathways Project in an awards dinner held on Saturday night.

Fourteen graduates successfully completed their Certificate II Coxswains and Marine Engine Driver qualifications while another completed their Level II Coxswains certificate.

TSRA Chairman, Mr Joseph Elu, said it was a fantastic outcome as the training would provide employment pathways for work in marine based industries, with outcomes already achieved from a previous course.

“The Marine Pathways Project helps develop skills and the capability of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people to operate commercial vessels in maritime industries,” Mr Elu said.

“The project has already seen a number of employment outcomes for past graduates such as Koeygab Pabai who is now the master of a Rebel Ferry operated vessel, Tanya Takai-Bowie who is a leading deckhand on the Elizabeth E II, and in this latest class Aaron Bon and Isaac Ghee who have now won positions as TSRA rangers.

“These new graduates will now be qualified to find similar types of work, or even better consider establishing and operating their own business in fisheries or tourism, a pathway that would contribute to the economic development of individuals, communities and the region.”

The Marine Pathways Project is funded by the TSRA and delivered in partnership with Marine Safety Queensland and Australian Marine Safety Authority.

Mr Elu said the primary focus of the project was to provide nationally accredited qualifications for operation of commercial vessels and included commercial vessel operation, development of safety management systems and a range of skills based learning activities.

Graduates included Lui Aaron Bon, Mark Pearson, Frank Loban, Joseph Des David, Maluwap Nona, Hassan Nona, Julohn Wigness, Dennis Passi, Patrick Nai, Isaac Ghee, Mark David, Richard Sailor, Ted Mosby, Joey Josia Laifoo and Eric Cottis.

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