

## Chair Elect announced for the Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3)

John Glanville has been appointed to the position of Chair Elect of the Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3).

Cr Anne Baker, Chair of the Whitsunday Regional Organisation of Councils welcomed John to the position.

“John demonstrated to the selection panel that he was the person to take GW3 forward. I wish to also acknowledge and thank the other applicants. We received very high quality applications from a number of well qualified people.”

Cr Baker was joined by Cr Greg Williamson, Mayor of Mackay Regional Council and Cr Andrew Willcox, Mayor of Whitsunday Regional Council in welcoming John to this new role.

John comes to the Chair position well known to the people of the Greater Whitsunday Region having previously been involved in business and having a strong affiliation with community organisations.

“My main goal is to get this new body working for industry in our Region and to take us to the next stage of development. We need to get this region on the map, to make people sit up and take notice of the Whitsunday region and what it has to offer,” he said.

“If this can be achieved then the added benefits of job retention and creation will be a major boost for the region.”

Mr Glanville said that he was excited by this appointment but did not underestimate the challenges ahead.

The Chair Elect will become the Chair of GW3 at a meeting of the entity in the New Year.

GW3 is a reconstituted company which will be governed by a Board of Directors. The Directors positions on the Board are currently being recruited. The Board will be selected based on their skills and commitment to make this initiative a success.

A Chief Executive Officer is also being recruited to start in the New Year. Cr Baker said, “this is a very exciting time for the Greater Whitsunday region as economic development opportunities that have relevance across all three Council areas will be the responsibility of GW3.”

Cr Baker was supported in her comments by Cr Williamson and Cr Willcox when she said that after planning for GW3 in recent months it is now coming together and will be in full operation in the near future.

GW3’s charter is to work with stakeholders from across the Greater Whitsunday region to promote development opportunities and be the lead agency for investors into the region.

Cr Baker said GW3 is an example of how a number of Councils can work together.

“Our view is that the Greater Whitsunday Region is best placed for sustainable development, both industry and economic, by having a peak body that has this as their only focus.”

The GW3 office will be based in Mackay but will serve the Greater Whitsunday Region.

Cr Baker said, “We hope to announce the new CEO and Board members in coming weeks.”

**Image:** John Glanville has been appointed to the position of Chair Elect of the Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3)

For more information visit – [www.whitsundayregion.org.au](http://www.whitsundayregion.org.au)

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