



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Grassroots support vital for Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine**

After securing funding for major long term projects – the Port Access Corridor and Reid Park redevelopment - Townsville Enterprise is adding its voice to calls for the development of an Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine at James Cook University (JCU).

People power got the Reid Park redevelopment and V8 Supercars bid over the line after community members inundated local candidates and party leaders with their support for the project.

Townsville Enterprise has set up a similar campaign in aid of the JCU project.

Community members interested in seeing this vital project confirmed prior to the Federal Election can log on to [www.townsvilleonline.com.au](http://www.townsvilleonline.com.au) and follow the links to voice their support.

Townsville Enterprise Chief Executive Officer Glenys Schuntner believes grassroots support is vital to securing promises during the campaign.

“The previous survey in support of the V8s was enough to get the green light for the Reid Park redevelopment. Candidates from both major parties indicated the project was brought to the fore through the their inboxes being clogged with emails from supporters.”

“We’re looking for a similar level of support for this next vital project. A \$50 million commitment will see groundbreaking and important research into a variety of tropical health related issues and management conducted here in Townsville.”

“An Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine here in Townsville would capitalise on the research power and facilities available at JCU and attract further high quality academics to the region.”

“Townsville’s tropical climate and existing knowledge base make this an ideal setting for such a facility,” Ms Schuntner said.

With the election just seven days away, Townsville Enterprise is urging locals to get behind this project.

**ENDS**

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