



17 November 2017

## **GUNNEDAH AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY NAMED BEST LOCAL CHAMBER FOR 2017**

Gunnedah and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been named 2017 **Best Local Chamber of Commerce** by the state's peak business organisation, the NSW Business Chamber, at a gala dinner at the International Convention Centre in Sydney.

The **Best Local Chamber of Commerce Award** recognises the achievements of a Local Chamber of Commerce in assisting their members maximise their potential.

The Gunnedah and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry welcomes all individuals and businesses who have an interest in the local business community.

Membership of the Gunnedah Chamber ranges from large manufacturers to small owner operated businesses and has increased by 12% in the previous financial year.

"We have experienced a notable growth in membership because we are vocal about our view becoming a respected organisation in the local community and being an effective advocacy group that gets results", said Michael Broekman, President, Gunnedah and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Hosting Chinese delegations has led to a domestic juice grower, Gunnible Oranges exporting 20ft containers of fruit every 10 days to China during harvest. Opportunities have also been created in the cotton, beef and linseed industries. A combined delegation of five local businesses from the Chamber and Council went to China earlier this year, followed by a fourth trip in August with hopeful investments in the local region in 2017/2018.

NSW Business Chamber CEO Stephen Cartwright congratulated Gunnedah and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry for their energy and determination to support the local business community and noted their export and investment efforts into China

"Local Chambers of Commerce play a vital role in representing the interests of business owners and supporting economic growth in their respective regions. Gunnedah and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry should be incredibly proud to be named as the state's best local chamber for 2017, and we wish the Chamber every success as it continues to serve the local business community", Mr Cartwright said.

**Media Contacts:**  
**NSW Business Chamber**  
**Damian Kelly: 0401 773 825**

**Gunnedah and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry**  
**Michael Broekman**  
**President: 0408 810 968**