



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### WINNER'S IN BUSINESS HONOURED

Saturday evening saw Mount Isa's Buchanan Park Entertainment Centre transformed to a Bavarian beer hall when 400 of the region's top business representatives and their guests gathered for the Oktoberfest themed 2018 Northern Outback Business Awards.

Hosted by Commerce North West, the gala evening recognised the efforts and achievements of individuals and businesses throughout the region; with nominations eligible from the local Government areas of Boulia, Burke, Carpentaria, Cloncurry, Croydon, Doomadgee, Etheridge, Flinders, McKinlay, Mornington, Mount Isa and Richmond.

With awards acknowledging both business and customer service excellence in over 25 categories, Commerce North West President Travis Crowther was pleased with the night's success and the calibre of entries received.

"We (Commerce North West) believe acknowledging the efforts and contributions businesses of all sizes and their people put into making the Northern Outback as diverse and liveable as it is, is very important. Seeing nights like Saturday's business awards sell-out and be such a success shows that this belief is mirrored across the community"

"This year we saw the calibre of entries really stepped up from previous years, and the judges had a very unenviable task judging our winners. Results included a number of first-time nominees and winners, with our emerging business category also larger than 2017 so this is a very positive insight into the current rebounding economy for the region."

With 48 customer service nominees and over 60 individual businesses nominated (some in multiple categories) Cloncurry Courier Service took out top honours, with judges





acknowledging “great business planning, impressive expansion strategies and a great work ethic” as contributing elements to their success.

Also receiving special recognition through Hall of Fame inductions were LJ Hooker Mount Isa and Sanctum Medi Spa Retreat; an accolade acknowledging and celebrating consistency in superior business practices and award recipients who have won at least one category in three separate years.

Entertained by a Brisbane based traditional Oompah band and guest Emcee and Hitfm West Queensland breakfast announcer Justin (JB) Bell, revellers also enjoyed a 3-course dinner and themed indulgences such as pretzels and schnapps.

**ENDS**

*Images (L>R)- 2018 Northern Outback Business Awards Business of the Year Award recipients Cloncurry Courier Service with Commerce North West President Travis Crowther.*

*Special Guest Emcee Justin Bell of Hitfm, Event Manager Katie Schrodter of Headlines and Co-Emcee Brian Atherinos dressed to impress!*



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