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## PRESS RELEASE

### PJV has reps on NATTB for 3 years

**PORT MORESBY, 26 APRIL, 2018, 1300HRS:** The Porgera Joint Venture (PJV) now has two representatives on the National Apprenticeship and Trade Testing Board (NATTB) of the Department of Labour and Industrial Relations.

Maintenance Training Specialist Trainer Ian Ritchie is a Member and Employee Development Senior Specialist Trainer Tommy Aselai is an Alternate Member, and both will serve on the Board for a term of three years.

The duo together with four other members of the Board were sworn into office on 28 March this year at the NATTB Secretariat in Port Moresby.

The ceremony was conducted by Committal Court Magistrate His Worship Alex Kalandi.

“This oath is a promise that you are making to see what you can do for the board. It will be for the best interest of the board that you are taking the oath, whether as an alternate member or member of the board itself, so you can do what is best to discharge the duties of the board,” Mr Kalandi said.

The others that were sworn in on the day were: Florence Willie, Executive Director of Employers’ Federation of PNG; Mathew Kusan Senior Program Officer with the Department of National Planning and Monitoring; Ugwalubu Mowana, the General Secretary for PNG Teachers’ Association; and Henry Gorea, the Managing Director of Ahu Pulie Timber Company.

Ms Willie, who was sworn in as the deputy chair of the NATTB Board, said the ceremony was a ritual for members appointed to the board under various legislations.

“It’s a high office we hold and our conduct and the decisions we make is for the people of Papua New Guinea, in particular the training and skilling of young PNG men and women into the different trades and occupation that they take upon.

“We have employer representatives here, we have workers and the union representatives and we have government,” she said.

The Board is chaired by Secretary for Department of Labour and Industrial Relations Mary Morola.

**Ends//**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Porgera Gold Mine in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, is operated by Barrick (Niugini) Limited (“BNL”)– through an equal partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group Company Limited – which owns 95 percent participating interest in the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The remaining 5% in PJV is owned by Mineral Resource Enga (MRE) Limited – a consortium consisting of the Enga Provincial Government and the Porgera landowners.

The Porgera Mine employs over 2,500 Papua New Guineans, and over the life of the mine has produced more than 20 million ounces of gold and contributed approximately 10% of PNG’s total annual exports.

**Ends//**



Magistrate Kalandi (third from right) with the Board members: Tommy (left to right), Ian, Ms Willie, and Messrs Mowana, Gorea, and Kusunan shortly after



Tommy (second from left) and Ian (third from right) with other Board members taking their oath.

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