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PRESS RELEASE

PJV reaffirms support for sustainable economic growth

PORT MORESBY, 04 MARCH, 2019, 1300HRS: The Porgera Joint Venture (PJV) operation supports sustainable agriculture development within Porgera.

PJV Manager Community and Social Responsibility (CSR) John Liston reaffirmed PJV's commitment in January during the Porgera Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) Group Leaders Forum staged at Porgera Station on 25 January.

The Forum saw participation from the Port Moresby based Small Medium Enterprise Corporation (SMEC) and officials from the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL) and PJV.

PCCI organised the forum for its 265 SME membership groups from within Porgera and Laigam to inform them of the Chambers Revolving Fund Facility Program and how it will assist them.

The Revolving Fund Facility aims to provide a micro loan facility for intending SME start-up activities for registered PCCI members.

PJV is an affiliated member of the PCCI and has also been invited to be part of the PCCI board.

Mr Liston said Porgera had an advantage and opportunity over other districts and provinces as it already has a viable economy generated by the operation of PJV.

“To be successful in business, you will require a market, a profit generating activity, governance from Government and support from an adviser, to ensure your compliance with tax and labour law. Each of these elements you have available to you in Porgera.”

He said PJV is interested in sustainable economic development within Porgera and is encouraging families and individuals to take part in small and medium enterprise in a sustainable manner.

While delivering PJV's support toward the PCCI, Mr Liston also said that there is significant development still required in Porgera.

“We encourage Government, the District Administration, Porgera District Authority and those government representatives who have come to Porgera to take part in the forum today to continue efforts to improve Porgera and the country, we are grateful for your support.

“PJV is supportive of establishment of the PCCI, and the focus of government in meeting their obligations and we intend to continue to work together with all available parties. We look for the opportunity during 2019 to make our contributions and take part in further forums like this which encourage development within Porgera,” John said.

PCCI President Nickson Pakea acknowledged PJV as PCCI’s biggest supporter and said PCCI’s main aim was to promote the interest of business in the district.

Mr Pakea said there are obvious problems in the district with law and order and leadership and the only option is for people to collectively participate and support each other.

“We have to take ownership, be proactive and mean business regarding sustainability of the district. We must stop blaming PJV for our shortcomings and take ownership of our own future,” Mr Pakea said.

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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 3,300 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.



Mr Liston addressing the forum at Porgera station.



Mr Liston formally receives an invitation from Mr Pakea for PJV to be board member to the PCCI.

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