



**Gladstone Ports Corporation**

*Growth, Prosperity, Community.*

GPC Ref #: 1393442

## **GPC CONGRATULATES ITS FIRST CIO TRAINEESHIP GRADUATES**

Two young women have completed an Australian-first qualification in Cross Industry Operations (CIO) at Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC).

The 18-month program was designed by GPC to support the region's future Indigenous leaders in their journey from education and training to employment and long-term career pathways.

People, Community and Sustainability General Manager Rowen Winsor said Breanna Beezley and Nicole Smith excelled in the traineeships, and were recently employed on a full time basis following two timely openings at GPC.

"GPC had a vision of what we could do to provide real opportunities and employment pathways for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Islander people," Ms Winsor said.

"We are incredibly proud of the program we have implemented and our two graduates now on a road to success.

"The CIO Traineeship highlights GPC's ongoing commitment towards genuine reconciliation and equal opportunities."

GPC Indigenous Affairs Advisor Lee-ann Dudley says the traineeship provides a wealth of experience for those involved.

"The program exposes the trainees to a range of roles and skills across GPC, while giving them an opportunity to tap into the knowledge of employees with more than 40 years' experience," Ms Dudley said.

"It's been a pleasure to watch our first two graduates grow both professionally and personally over the past 18 months.

"They're brimming with confidence and have developed leadership and communication skills that have been praised by their Supervisors and colleagues."

The trainees rotated through the business, gaining experience in Administration, Warehouse Operations, Building Services, Parks and Recreation and Marine Pilots.

They also participated in cultural classes, through participation in National Reconciliation Week and programs in association with Nhulundu Health Service and Rockhampton's Dreamtime Cultural Centre.

GPC's second cohort of CIO Trainees began this week.

For more information about the CIO Traineeship, please contact [IndigenousAffairs@gpcl.com.au](mailto:IndigenousAffairs@gpcl.com.au).



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*Indigenous Affairs Mentor and Liaison Officer Melissa Alberts, CIO graduates Nicole Smith and Breanna Beezley and Indigenous Affairs Advisor Lee-Ann Dudley.*

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