

MEDIA RELEASE
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Orange Sky Australia Founders to Address AICD's Townsville Business Leaders Breakfast

As part of its suite of regional events, the Australian Institute of Company Directors will host a business leaders breakfast in Townsville on Thursday February 21 with the founders of Orange Sky Australia, Lucas Patchett GAICD and Nic Marchesi GAICD, both of whom are recent graduates of the AICD's flagship Company Directors Course.

Orange Sky Australia is a free mobile laundry service for people experiencing homelessness. As clothes are washed, Orange Sky Australia's volunteers sit down with the people doing it tough and share stories and genuine conversation.

An inspiring success story, Orange Sky has now expanded to locations across Australia including Townsville. Patchett and Marchesi will speak about their journey, the lessons they have learnt along the way and what can be achieved through sharing ideas, challenges and resources.

Co-founder Lucas Patchett said, "We didn't know anything about governance when we started at the age of twenty and it's been a steep learning curve. We have worked hard to tighten up our business practice, which has really changed in the last 18 months thanks to the Australian Institute of Company Directors. The AICD does a great job in engaging its members and we have appreciated its support over the last 18 months and assistance in helping us future-proof our business."

"Governance practice is more important than ever when you're trusted with other people's money and when you're responsible for a team. It underpins being able to honour our obligations to, and support for all of our stakeholders, whether they are the amazing volunteers who work with us, the friends who use our services or our staff and investors."

As the thousands of volunteers, some of whom have never volunteered before, are an important part of the company, Patchett says that having a strong governance framework is essential. The volunteers are what motivates them, and their collective and individual passion and level of engagement are inspirational.

The AICD provides professional development and networking opportunities for senior executives and directors, supporting them in confronting the challenges they face as business leaders and board members. As well as delivering meaningful programs to the director community across business, government and the not-for-profit sector, the AICD aims to positively impact society and the economy through governance education and advocacy.

"We are pleased to be able to offer this event to our members and non-members in Cairns. We are also very proud to support and provide governance education to Orange Sky Australia as this is an exciting company doing outstanding work in the community," said Melanie Mayne-Wilson, State Manager, QLD, AICD.

The AICD is grateful for the support of its partners, Commonwealth Bank and Wilson Ryan Grose in hosting this event.

**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE
of COMPANY DIRECTORS**

For those wishing to learn more about Orange Sky's journey and to network with other local businesses, the breakfast will be held at The Villa Resort Casino at 7 30 am on February 21. To register or for additional information about AICD's events and courses please contact: qldevents@aicd.com.au or (07) 32225500

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The Australian Institute of Company Directors is committed to excellence in governance. We make a positive impact on society and the economy through governance education, director development and advocacy. Our membership of more than 43,000 includes directors and senior leaders from business, government and the not-for-profit sector.