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CAIRNS - ONE OF QUEENSLAND'S BEST CITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT

Housing affordability and a tropical lifestyle is driving a confident and stable property market in Cairns with First National Real Estate's Chief Executive Officer Ray Ellis confirming Cairns has become one of Queensland's hotspots for employment security.

With an enviable lifestyle and continuing to be a must-see tourist destination, Ray Ellis predicts Cairns will be one of the best cities in Queensland for employment security over the next few years.

'Cairns provides an exceptional lifestyle and plenty of employment options in the tourism and hospitality industry' said Mr Ellis.

'These two industries are major contributors to the Cairns economy, providing the flexibility for full time (57.6%) and part-time (37.9%) employees, which is very attractive to young families as well as young adults seeking their first jobs. But there are also plenty of employment opportunities in the agriculture and associated industries.

'While house prices have fluctuated significantly in the premier property ranges since 2010, Cairns offers plenty of homes in the realms of \$200,000 to \$300,000, making it exceptionally attractive to first home buyers and young families.

'Cairns also offers a good spread of employment options with professional positions accounting for approximately 25 per cent of jobs, community and personal services about 13 per cent, managerial positions around 19 per cent, technicians and trade workers approximately 10 per cent, clerical and administrative a further 10 per cent, and sales and labourer positions running to around 10 per cent and 8 per cent respectively.

'Without doubt, Cairns is a great location to bring up families but it also offers excellent prospects for first home buyers and a wide range of employment options for those who seek to escape the mortgage pressure created by capital city prices.'

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For further information contact:

Stewart Bunn, National Communications Manager, First National Real Estate, on
1800 032 332 or 0413 624 317