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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Fantastic turn out at 'For the Future of our Region' Mackay rally

Hundreds of community members, businesses and families enthusiastically turned out in support of yesterday's 'For the Future of our Region' Mackay rally and voice their support of the development of the mining in the Galilee Basin.

Organisers of the event, Resource Industry Network (RIN), are extremely pleased with the turn out saying the peaceful yet passionate rally was reflective of the community's strong views on the future of the region and the pride they took in being part of Australia's leading export industry.

"Most of those in attendance had never attended a rally before so to see them turn in the hundreds was really encouraging," rally convener and RIN director Mick Crowe said.

Speakers on the day provided a sobering reminder of what the community would look like if the Galilee Basin was not developed and implored the community to fight for the region's future.

Mackay mayor Cr Greg Williamson told the crowd he wasn't happy about outsiders arriving "on our patch and telling us we can't do what currently supports 60% of our regional economy".

Rally convener and RIN director Mick Crowe said the rally wasn't a protest about whether they build a new coal mine, but whether our industry had a future or not.

"This is about sending a very clear message to every political party, that if you don't back us, we won't back you."

Former Queensland Maroons prop Marty Bella pumped the crowd up with more strong messages around how "we create wealth, they use it".

Resource Industry Network's 'For the Future of our Region' campaign continues to gain momentum and more events are currently being planned.

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