



Craig Wright and Jennifer Todd from Xstrata Coal, and Larry Littlewood, Prime Rentals.



David Brimblecombe, Central Highlands Regional Councillor, Robyn George, Anakie Gemfields Motel, and Fiona Moore, Blue Gem Caravan Park, at the lunch in Capella.

Industry reps gather at Blackwater breakfast

CENTRAL Highlands industry representatives turned out in force to receive an update on developments in their region at a Central Highlands Development Corporation (CHDC) business breakfast in Blackwater on Friday.

More than 50 people from a range of industries attended the breakfast and speakers included representatives from the government and mining sectors, who travelled from Brisbane to address the group.

Vaughan Wishart provided an overview of Stanmore Coal activities in the region, which include projects in varying stages of exploration and development around Blackwater and Emerald, while Phil Ferenczi, a regional geologist DEEDI, looked at the broader mining activity planned for the region.

A key message from the presentations was the scale of development, and the associated need for housing in the communities.

Central Highlands Regional Mayor Peter Maguire reiterated to the audience the council's plans to form a housing company to improve the supply of affordable accommodation



Peter Maguire, Central Highlands Regional Council, and Peter Bolt at Blackwater.

in the region.

Urban Land Development Authority chief executive officer Paul Eagles, who also spoke, has been working closely with the Central Highlands Regional Council on projects to alleviate the accommodation crisis.

"There is no 'silver bullet' solution for the housing shortage; success will only come from everyone working together. The issue of key workers housing is one that must be addressed specifically," Mr Eagles said.

The CHDC team also travelled to Capella for a lunch-time function, where Phil Ferenczi addressed an



Paul Muldrew, Ray White and Paul Eagles, Urban Land Development Authority, at the Blackwater breakfast.

audience of 50 people and provided additional information on the activities in the Galilee Basin.

CHDC general manager Sandra Hobbs said the two events were part of an ongoing effort by her organisation to provide information on relevant topics to business and industry leaders in the Central Highlands regions.

"It is pleasing to see the smaller communities in the Central Highlands embracing the opportunity to gather information to support the future development of their businesses," she said. — Pictures: SUPPLIED.



Sandra Hobbs, CHDC, Paul Eagles, Urban Land Development Authority, and Vaughan Wishart, Stanmore Coal



Linda Galloway and Brad Duke, Central Highlands Regional Council, at the breakfast