

Mine looks to shift focus

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CANADIAN owner of the Goondicum Mine, Melior Resources, is considering permanently relocating to Australia in a move that would bolster its mining operation outside Monto.

Should the move go ahead, Melior would apply for registration on the Australian Securities Exchange in an attempt to attract domestic investors.

Given the company's limited presence in Canada, an Australian base would streamline its corporate

Canadian owner of Goondicum considering a move Down Under

structure and reduce the regulatory burden of operating across multiple tax jurisdictions.

Melior Resources chief executive Mark McCauley said the proposed move made strategic sense and would support the company's growth.

"It makes sense for us to get exposure to prospective investors in Australia and in order to do that we need to become an Australian entity," Mr McCauley said.

Melior has committed to restarting production at Goondicum by November, and plans to acquire and develop additional industrial minerals projects.

Procuring more mine sites is an ongoing process, and while focusing its search in Queensland, Melior refused to rule out offshore ventures.

"Our strategy is to restart Goondicum, get it up and running as efficiently and profitably as possible and

optimise the project, which means improving the efficiency and lengthening the life," Mr McCauley said.

"Then use that asset as a platform from which we acquire other projects.

"Our management team has done that quite successfully in the past and are confident of doing it again, but it requires patience and discipline to ensure you get the right project at the right price."

Melior recently appointed

Sydney businessman George Lloyd to the board as a non-executive director.

Mr McCauley said the appointment represented another step in becoming a serious and well-respected player in the sector.

"George was part of the original formation of Iluka Resources - Australia's largest mineral sands producer," Mr McCauley said.

"He has a wealth of experience in resources, across not only the

technical, but the financial side of the business."

In June, the company announced a share consolidation, indicating Melior's desire to increase its share price and generate interest from institutional investors, or to meet the minimum trading size for listing status on a stock exchange.

The company now has just shy of 29 million shares, and a market capitalisation of roughly \$28.5 million.

Working dogs put their best paws forward

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HAVE you ever wondered what the fashion-conscious dogs are wearing to work this winter?

Lyric and Yahoo, the four-legged friends of Biggenden Engineering Works owners, Glen and Julie Chapman, always look the part when they front up to work each day in their dog coats.

Along with fellow Biggenden Engineering staff, they look pretty slick in their newly embroidered oilskin vests.

Mrs Chapman said the dogs loved their vests.

"It's really been a win-win situation for everyone," she said.

"Deb Frampton at Deb's Country Outfitters supplies all our work wear clothing.

"Her prices are competitive and it's all about supporting local businesses."

Mrs Chapman said the team opted for vests because it was hard for the boys to keep warm in their line of work.

"Plus jackets are not suitable in our environment," she said.

"The oilvests suit very well, especially with the industrial look," Mrs Chapman said.



KEEPING OUT THE CHILL: Lyric and Yahoo look dapper in their new winter coats that match the outfits of their Biggenden Engineering Works colleagues, Russell Banks and Karl Andrew. PHOTO: ERICA MURREE

More to get NDIS support

THE number of people receiving disability support in the Fraser Coast, North Burnett, South Burnett and Cherbourg regions is forecast to grow from 2200 to 5100 by 2020, a National Disability Insurance Agency Market report states.

Assistant Minister for Disability Services, Jane Prentice said the rollout of the NDIS across a number of Queensland regions, including the North Burnett, was an important milestone for people with disability, their families, carers and the broader local community.

"The NDIS is one of the largest social policy reforms in Australia's history and is already empowering more than 15,000 Queenslanders with disability," Mrs Prentice said.

The NDIS is expected to boost the Queensland economy by \$2.5 billion and bring nearly 35,950 new jobs to Queensland.

Mrs Prentice said over the coming years a proportion of \$190 million would be injected into the North Burnett economy as a result of the NDIS rollout across Queensland.

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NORTH Burnett Regional Council is promoting a new e-waste trial to reduce landfill at the region's waste management facilities.

Mayor Rachel Chambers said from next Monday residents would have the ability to leave e-waste recyclables (under three cubic metres) at all North Burnett waste management facilities during operating hours, free of charge.

"This is an initial trial to reduce e-waste going to landfill, however it is hoped that as a community we can use this e-waste effectively

Council trials e-waste recycling program

ourselves into the future," Cr Chambers said.

"There are plans under way for this, however this initial trial will fill the gap whilst we are in our planning phase."

Australia is amongst the highest users of new technology in the world and waste from electronic goods is growing rapidly.

"It is anticipated that the trial will redirect e-waste into recycled components that can be used as parts or raw products to create other electronic parts," Cr Chambers said.