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MEDIA RELEASE

Alexandrina Council welcomes Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth research hub funding

17 December 2020

Federal Member for Mayo Rebekha Sharkie brought fabulous news to the region today, with the Federal Government announcing \$8 million for a research hub focusing on the health of the Murray Mouth, Lower Lakes and Coorong.

The new 'Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Research Hub' will be overseen by the Goyder Institute for Water Research, with its principal office to be located in Goolwa.

Alexandrina Council Mayor Keith Parkes said the Federal Government funding and advocacy support from Rebekha Sharkie MP is greatly appreciated by our Council and environmentally responsible community.

"We are extremely pleased to see Government investment in our river systems in such a proactive way that will support and drive resilience in our communities.

It makes great sense to have this research facility in Goolwa, given its location at the end of the Basin and on the edge of an internationally renowned wetland system, which will be well supported by our highly engaged and informed community.

Council and our community have been saying for many years – healthy rivers flow to the sea. This research will provide the framework to secure a healthy river system for generations to come. We obviously want to avoid a repeat of what we experienced in the Millennium Drought.

At today's announcement, Ms Sharkie said that the region is well-positioned to provide the leadership needed for a community-driven hub that can source and share the scientific knowledge of our local communities, including First Nations people, researchers and governments for a sustainable wetland.

Alexandrina Council's Chief Executive Officer, Glenn Rappensberg said the 'Hub' presents a wonderful opportunity for our region, our people and of course the iconic Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth ecosystem.

“Through collaboration, the ‘Hub’ will add to the evidence-base, capacity and capability for the future management of the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth.”

Alexandrina Council very much appreciates the ongoing support of the Australian Government, our local Federal Member for Mayo Rebekha Sharkie and our many community stakeholders for achieving such a great outcome for the River and our region.

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