



**Hon Peter Lawlor MP**  
Member for Southport



**Minister for Tourism and Fair  
Trading**

**7 May 2009**

### **Best Job candidates visit Central Queensland and the Southern Great Barrier Reef**

Two of the final 16 candidates for Tourism Queensland's Best Job in the World recruitment campaign will tour Central Queensland and the Southern Great Barrier Reef over the next few days, Tourism Minister Peter Lawlor announced today.

"George Karellas from Ireland and Magali Heuberger from the Netherlands will visit Rockhampton, Gladstone, Voyages Heron Island and Voyages Wilson Island and will participate in a range of activities such as snorkelling on the outer Great Barrier Reef, reef walking, kayaking, lazing in hammocks and enjoying relaxing spa treatments.

"George and Magali will also stay overnight in a variety of hotels and resorts throughout the regions, experiencing the breadth and quality of local accommodation options.

"The tour is organised in partnership between Tourism Queensland, Gladstone Area Promotion and Development, Capricorn Tourism and local operators."

Mr Lawlor said the two finalists have had a challenging few weeks, culminating in an intensive three-day interview process at Hamilton Island.

"George and Magali narrowly missed out on the island caretaker position, which yesterday went to Ben Southall from Britain," Mr Lawlor said.

"These candidates absolutely wowed us and have ensured Queensland was at the forefront of media in their respective countries during the campaign, all while holding down full-time jobs and family commitments.

"With more than 34,000 applications, the Caretaker of Islands of the Great Barrier Reef was arguably the most sought-after job in the world.

"The worldwide response to Best Job in the World campaign was nothing short of phenomenal and achieved more than \$100 million worth of global publicity for Queensland.

"International tourism is a key economic driver for Queensland and during challenging economic times, activities such as the Best Job in the World campaign are crucial to increase the visibility and presence of Queensland destinations and products in international markets.

"We are committed to generating interest from international markets and will do everything possible to maximise the benefits for Queensland."

**Ends**