

9 September 2010

**SUNCORP BANK HELPS TOWNSVILLE RESIDENTS
BUY THEIR FIRST HOME OR INVESTMENT PROPERTY**

Suncorp Bank will be partnering with local business to host a free first home buyer and investor seminar to help Townsville residents who are considering buying their first home or investing in property but aren't sure where to begin.

Suncorp Bank Area Branch Manager Chris Rothwell said getting into the property market for the first time could be a scary and daunting process for many young people.

"When purchasing your first home it can be hard to understand how to get into the market and what's involved," Chris said.

"There are a number of things to consider throughout the process and it pays to find out as much as you can before you buy your first home or invest in property.

"So along with some local experts, we are running a free seminar for first home buyers to find out everything they need to know.

"We'll discuss everything from how to research a property and choosing an appropriate location, to applying for the first home buyers grant and your first loan."

Chris said the free seminar would also provide a great overview for any Townsville residents who have considered investing in property but weren't sure where to begin.

"Property investment is generally viewed as a more secure investment option, but it can be hard to understand how to get into the market and what's involved," said Chris.

"I will be on hand to answer any finance related queries on the night, while Errol Munro, Sales Manager Helen Munro Ray White and Tracey Crome, Asset Director Ray White will talk about the property market. Patrick Sutton, Partner at Mackey Wales Law, will be discussing the legal side of buying a property."

The seminar will cover issues including:

- What you need to get started and your options
- The 11 stage process you should consider before buying a property
- Borrowing guidelines
- Costs associated with buying a property (both investment and owner occupied)
- Negative Gearing
- The property market and the legal side of buying a property

The free seminar, which is open to all members of the public, will be held at **6:00pm on Tuesday 14 September at the Mercure Inn Townsville, Woolcock Street, Townsville.**

The seminar will run for approximately one hour, with light refreshments available after. Anyone wishing to attend should contact **Julie Witty on 47218188**, or email julie.witty@suncorp.com.au

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