



20 December 2018

Mayor welcomes news on Dr O'Connor residency

Circular Head Mayor Daryl Quilliam has welcomed today's news that Smithton GP Dr Daryl O'Connor has been granted a permanent residency visa by the Commonwealth Government.

Dr O'Connor, who is originally from Fiji had faced the prospect of having to leave the country after an initial bid for a visa was rejected, but he and his family will now be allowed to stay in Smithton, where they have lived for the past five years.

Mayor Quilliam wrote to politicians from all levels of government on behalf of Council to ask for Dr O'Connor's residency to be retained and said he was pleased with the outcome.

"This is great not only for Dr O'Connor and his family, but for the whole Circular Head community who benefit from having him here," Mayor Quilliam said.

"The way the Circular Head community has rallied behind him has been fantastic and I thank them all for their efforts.

"I'd also like the politicians from all levels of government for their support and for advocating for this outcome.

"I look forward to Dr O'Connor and his family continuing to being a part of our community for years to come."