

Hitoshi Okawa

Chancellor, I have the pleasure of presenting Hitoshi Okawa, who has been awarded the Honorary Doctorate of Economics.

Okawa-san has played a fundamental role in enabling the \$60-billion INPEX-operated Ichthys LNG energy development – the largest-ever overseas investment by a Japanese company.

He has made Australia his home for more than two decades, residing here for 22 of the past 25 years!

Of note, the vast economic and social benefits flowing to Australian communities from Ichthys LNG would not be possible without Okawa-san's drive, dedication and commitment to ensure a successful final investment decision in 2012.

Importantly, he championed the decision to locate Ichthys LNG's onshore processing facilities here in Darwin. Okawa-san was also instrumental in establishing the INPEX Larrakia Advisory Committee and developing the \$24 million Larriakia Ichthys LNG Investment Fund.

Okawa-san's notable career at INPEX CORPORATION began in 1994 and he became part of the pioneering team at INPEX Browse Ltd in Perth just four years later.

After a successful assignment in Perth, Okawa-san returned to Tokyo in 2002, taking on managerial responsibilities in the Planning & New Ventures Department and Corporate Strategy & Administration Division.

In 2005, he returned to Perth to oversee the Commercial & Corporate Coordination department and his dedication and skills led to his subsequent appointment as Director, Corporate Coordination in 2008. In April 2009, Okawa-san set up the INPEX corporate office in Darwin.

Recognising his outstanding performance and leadership, Okawa-san was promoted to the prestigious position of President Director Australia in February 2019 - a position he held until April 2023. Today, Okawa-san serves as Senior Managing Executive Officer; Senior Vice President, Oceania Projects and will relocate to Tokyo in October.

In 2022, Okawa-san was presented with the Japan Foreign Minister's Commendation by the then Japanese Ambassador to Australia, Shingo Yamagami, in recognition of his contribution

to the economic relationship between Australia and Japan, particularly in developing Ichthys LNG, one of the most significant energy projects in the world.

Chancellor,

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to INPEX CORPORATION and the economic development of the Northern Territory, Charles Darwin University Council awards Hitoshi Okawa the title of Honorary Doctor of Economics.