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2012 Telethon Home – Official Opening

By Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP

City of Cockburn

on Thursday 13 October 2012

Thank you Tina (Tina Altieri, Master of Ceremonies).

Good afternoon and welcome to Port Coogee on the occasion of the official opening of the 2012 Telethon Home by In – Vogue and Australand.

We know Australians generally enjoy a wonderful coastline, one that provides a wealth of varying opportunities for lifestyle choices just as we see today with the Telethon Home before us and the increasing number of families who have chosen to call Port Coogee home.

The Noongar people have called Australia home for over 40,000 years living a nomadic lifestyle as they moved with the six seasons of the year, hunting and gathering, raising their families and passing on the dreamtime stories that more and more capture our imagination.

The storytelling, passed down by the Noongar people has engaged and informed their children and grandchildren of their Aboriginal heritage and their unique culture that has endured over that time.

It has provided a rich tapestry of times past and placed importance on families and children and the need for those stories to continue

This is not unlike the Telethon story that has been passed down through the generations since its inception in 1968.

I acknowledge the Noongar people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which we are meeting today

and pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Noongar Nation and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who may be present today.

I acknowledge the presence of:

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- Mr Tony Perrin, General Manager – Australand and other employees of Australand;
- Mr Julian Walter JWH Group;

Members of the Channel 7 Telethon Trust

- The Honourable Richard Court AC;
- The Honourable Kay Hallahan AO, JP;
- Mr Nick Stagg;
- Mrs Donna Stagg;
- Mr Tony Vallelonga JP; and
- Mrs Mary Vallengola.

Representatives from Channel 7

- Mr Steve Mummery, General Manager of Telethon; and
- Mr Mario D’Orazio, Managing Director.
- Mr Peter Bryant, representing Seven West Media

Representatives from the City of Cockburn

- Councillor Kevin Allen, Deputy Mayor and his wife Debra;
- Councillor Tony Romano;
- Councillor Carol Reeve-Fowkes;
- Mr Stephen Cain, Chief Executive Officer City of Cockburn; and
- Mrs Samantha Seymour-Eyles, Manager Corporate Communications;
- Tina Roberts, Marketing Co-ordinator/Client Service Manager, Residential Building WA;

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Ladies and gentlemen, one and all.

The City of Cockburn is proud to have the 2012 Telethon Home by In-Vogue and Australand in Australand's Port Coogee, a world class marina and residential estate offering a premium coastal lifestyle.

Congratulations to In – Vogue Homes for the home is their seventh consecutive contribution to Telethon.

The home is a 2-storey four bedroom two bathroom modern home constructed using the latest design features and products.

I can see a record price being obtained as discerning bidders keep the auctioneer busy, or it might be the case where the home is sold before the auction – time will tell.

I recall Telethon's held over the years, commencing in 1968, the connect that showcasing local, national and international performers has on the viewing audience, the Telethon child or children and how they tug at our hearts, the volunteering that takes place throughout the year to raise funds, the staff of Channel 7 and other partners who volunteer their time, the generosity of the community; and of course the auction that takes place for the Telethon Home; all of which culminates in year after year of record fund raising.

In fact, per capita, Western Australian's are the most generous people in the world when it comes to donating.

Today I acknowledge the two Patrons of Telethon, His Excellency, Malcolm McCusker AO QC, the Governor of Western Australia, and Professor Fiona Stanley AC, both champions of the cause and household names in their own right.

Their ongoing contribution to improving the lives of children and young people throughout Western Australia is well known.

Ladies and gentlemen - as we move towards the Telethon Weekend for 2012 on the 10 & 11 November let's hope the telephone calls come in at a record rate and the donations exceed previous years.

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I have great pleasure in official opening the 2012 Telethon Home by In – Vogue and Australand – may the thousands of people passing through it over coming weeks see the value of living in this wonderful location and return for the auction itself.