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Subject NIB Announces New Board Appointments

NIB Health Funds has announced two further appointments to the company's Board of Directors.

Respected Hunter medical practitioner, Dr Annette Carruthers, and Port Waratah Coal Services chief, Mr David Brewer, have joined the Board.

NIB Chairman, Mr Keith Lynch, said the new directors would make important contributions as the fund looks to continue its current growth by expanding its business activities across a number of health-related areas.

"We are delighted that Dr Carruthers and David Brewer have accepted our invitation to join the Board. Each brings a level of experience and business acumen in their respective fields which can only benefit the organisation," Mr Lynch said.

Dr Carruthers' appointment is the first time in the fund's history that a medical provider has been involved at Board level.

Dr Carruthers has been practising in the Charlestown and Redhead areas for 22 years. She is presently a member of the Board of the Hunter Area Health Service and remains an active member of the Hunter Urban Division of General Practice.

"We believe Dr Carruthers can offer valuable counsel as we seek to increase value for NIB members by working more closely with all stakeholders in the health sector," Mr Lynch said.

Mr Brewer is General Manager of PWCS, the world's largest and most efficient coal handling operation. He has held this position for the past five years, during which PWCS has undergone a major expansion.

"David adds to the level of professionalism on our Board consistent with member and industry expectations for health funds to adopt the highest standards of corporate governance," Mr Lynch said.

NIB's Board of Directors also includes Mr Lynch, Mr Michael Slater, Ms Janet Dore, Mr John Graham and Mr Grahame Cannon.

NIB is also close to filling all positions in its new management team.

The fund has continued to build on its strong trading results over the past year, with membership and reserves both at record levels.

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