

Vital Face Masks Donated by ViPlus Dairy

South Gippsland Shire Council thanks ViPlus Dairy for demonstrating its commitment to the people of Gippsland and especially South Gippsland by donating 200,00 TGA approved face masks for health workers on the frontline fighting coronavirus.

Council will distribute the face masks to those services most in need for the vital protective equipment including hospitals, ambulance and police workers and other health frontline workers.

Administrator Rick Brown was on hand to accept the masks from ViPlus Dairy Chief Executive Officer, Jon McNaught on Friday. He congratulated ViPlus Dairy for their generous donation in a time of Gippsland's need and across the globe.

Administrator Brown said that ViPlus's decision to choose South Gippsland as its Australian base and to restore the dairy factory at Toora - which had been dormant for 10 years - has been a real blessing for South Gippsland.

"ViPlus's investment has led to the creation of more than 100 jobs and its plan to expand its operations and create more jobs demonstrates its commitment to South Gippsland.

"ViPlus's donation of these masks is another demonstration of its commitment to the South Gippsland community and is gratefully received by the Council," said Administrator Brown.

ViPlus Dairy Chief Executive Officer, Jon McNaught said: "ViPlus Management recognised the importance of providing much needed support for our Chinese neighbors, as well as front line workers in Australia in this desperate time of need. ViPlus already provides our Australian milk powder to most Provinces across China, including Wuhan, and we knew this was an important time in the China-Australia relationship whereby we need to help each other."

"This active and on-going circular support for our respective countries has been further evidence that mutual respect and care for one another is always more important than doing business. Both China, Australia and our trading partners in time will recover, and it is these actions that will bind our societies to be even stronger for whatever we face in the future," said Mr McNaught.

PR2542 16/6/20

For media enquiries, please contact the Communications team on 5662 9200 South Gippsland Shire Council, 9 Smith St. (Private Bag 4), Leongatha 3953 communications@southgippsland.vic.gov.au www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au