

Russell Harding **CEO, MedReleaf Australia**

Russell Harding is the CEO and Executive Chairman of Indica Industries Pty Ltd – a privately owned Queensland-based medical cannabis company that will trade as MedReleaf Australia.

Russell has more than 35 years' experience as a pharmacist and pharmacy entrepreneur in Australia.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree from the Victorian College of Pharmacy in 1974, Russell spent several years overseas in hospital pharmacy management and administration.

Over time, Russell ventured into pharmacy start-ups, and in 1983 established his own pharmacy group, the Hardings Pharmacies Group.

Through the Hardings Pharmacy Group, Russell opened six pharmacies, and, over 20 years developed a successful business model dedicated to clinically focussed community pharmacy operations.

Russell is also a long-term Director and past Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Warehousing Co-operative Company, Atherton Pharmaceuticals Ltd comprising more than 80 pharmacy member owners.

Throughout his career, Russell has founded and operated six start-up pharmacies, business consulting services and medical centres both as a sole proprietor and also as a director of a large clinic in Brisbane. In 1986, while working as pharmacist, Russell completed his Bachelor of Human Movement Studies (B.HMS), majoring in Exercise Physiology, through the University of Queensland. He also has experience in property development, business mentoring, medical centre management, and semi-professional sports coaching in Australian Football. He has spent 23 years in Rotary International as a community service volunteer.

“We are delighted to bring MedReleaf to Australia, and look forward to the opportunity to manufacture pharmaceutical grade medicines from cannabis, grown with the proven scientific and operational rigour provided by our Canadian Partner, MedReleaf Corp., now one of the biggest and most respected medicinal cannabis companies in the world.

“We look forward to becoming a research-driven and major player in the emerging Australian Medicinal Cannabis sector, providing a new therapy to patients living with debilitating medical conditions,” said Russell.

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To coordinate an interview with Russell Harding, please contact Kirsten Bruce or Mark Henderson from VIVA! Communications on 0401 717 566 / 0431 465 004.

