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Media Statement

WOODSIDE LEADER RETIRES TO LEND HIS SKILLS TO CHARITY

After 29 years at Woodside Energy, Brad Russell-Lane has left his corporate role but the not-quite 50-year-old isn't ready to retire from work just yet.

Mr Russell-Lane, who was Woodside Energy's CEO North West Shelf & Vice President Australia Business, is now focused on lending his skills in a voluntary capacity and will join the ranks of two Perth-based charities – Diabetes Research WA and the Polly Farmer Foundation.

Mr Russell-Lane, who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes – an incurable autoimmune condition – at the age of 36, said he was grateful to have had such an incredible corporate career and though the time had come to move on, he was keen to contribute to the community.

"I'll be definitely spending more time with family and racing motocross and surfing but I always wanted to give back so I'll be working with Diabetes Research WA on building its workplace giving program which I'm very passionate about," he said.

"Medical research has already made an important difference to the lives of so many people that live with diabetes but there's a way to go and WA punches way above its weight in diabetes research so I don't see why we can't be at the forefront of a cure."

The role will see Mr Russell-Lane back in the city at the organisation's Royal Perth Hospital-based headquarters a few days a week.

"We are just so thrilled to have Brad on our team – he's been a tremendous asset since he joined our Board last year and we're excited about the opportunity to work with him to create another vital income stream for our group to use to fund WA diabetes research," she said.

"At the moment, the bulk of our funds come from bequests but with rates of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes growing in the community, and having a significant impact on business, there's a huge need for us to expand our workplace giving reach."

Mr Russell-Lane's relationship with Diabetes Research WA stemmed from his mother's involvement volunteering with the group over a number of years.

Since 1976, Diabetes Research WA has channelled more than \$5.65 million into ground-breaking local research projects.

Details from www.diabetesresearchwa.com.au

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