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Contemporary Issues in Australian Ports

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AUSTRALIAN PORTS – CHALLENGES AND CONDITIONS



CURRENT STATUS

- Located in the physical heart of most communities
- Threatened by urban encroachment and conflicting use of adjoining land
- Evolution of operating models Public vs Private
- Lack of alignment in regulatory frameworks
- Short term agendas for business and government hampers sustainable port development
- Role clarity issue with key stakeholders
- Rise of environmental activism against industry and ports



HISTORICAL PORT DEVELOPMENT

- Historically located at the heart of a community
- Close day-to-day physical integration between port and 'host community'
- The driving force for local, regional and international industry and economic prosperity
- Historically strong community, regulatory and industry support for growth and expansion to service market needs

CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

- Maintain and increase quay line infrastructure to manage growth
- Channel deepening to support ship size trends
- Defence of existing port land and improved integration of road and rail capacity
- Policy and regulatory flexibility to quickly meet private sector needs
- Ensure "future-proofing" of access corridors

WAY FORWARD

Long Term Goal – Public Confidence

- Inspire pride in our ports
- Understanding of our operations
- Trust in our mission

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

A *Social License* is 'the acceptance and belief by local communities in the value creation of your activities'.

It is:

- Dynamic
- Intangible
- Non permanent

A **Social License** must be earnt and then maintained through constant vigilance and community involvement.

ENGAGEMENT PATHWAYS

- Drive Awareness (role clarity and purpose)
- 2) Educate (operations, policies, standards)
- 3) Value Add (broad community support)

Benefits

- Ability to operate and grow
- Reputational capital / insurance
- Regulator and business confidence

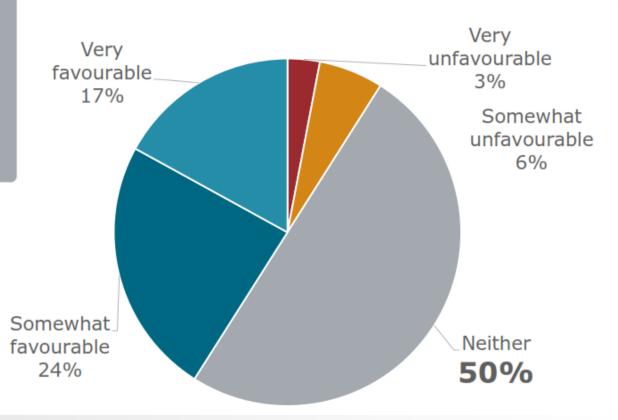
CASE STUDY: PORT OF VANCOUVER – ROLE CLARITY AND PURPOSE



CASE STUDY: PORT OF VANCOUVER

Our audience: the neutrals

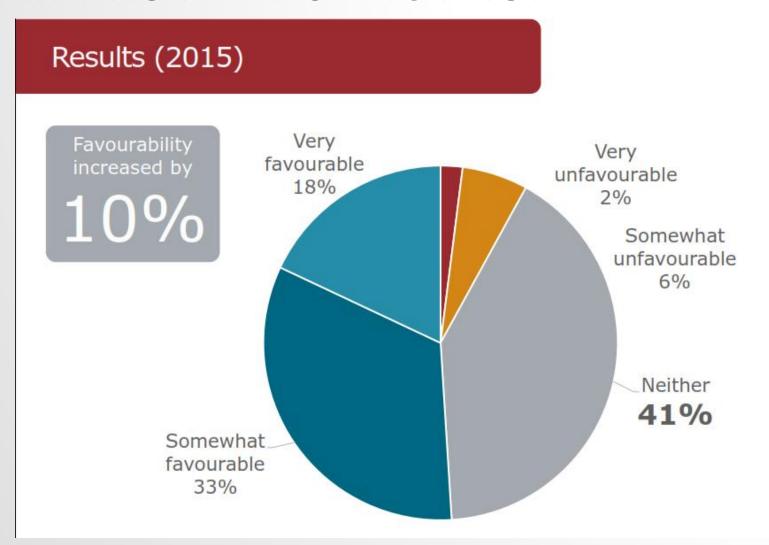
- Not actively engaged
- At greatest risk from negative coverage



ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



IMPROVED PUBLIC PROFILE



ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE ENGAGEMENT

- Port and industry collaboration
- Consistent messages and commitment to stakeholder consultation
- A tiered approach to communications
 - National
 - State
 - Regional
 - Local

