



MEDIA RELEASE

RUGBY LEAGUE COMMUNITY SADDENED BY THE PASSING OF CHOW FAMILY MATRIARCH, LADY COLETTE CHOW

August 6th, 2026, PORT MORESBY: The Board, Management, and Staff of the Papua New Guinea Rugby Football League (PNGRFL), alongside the broader rugby league community, are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of the Chow family matriarch, late Lady Colette Chow.

Lady Colette Chow passed away peacefully on August 3, 2026, at the age of 92, marking the end of a remarkable life defined by strength, grace, and unwavering devotion to her family and the nation.

A beacon of light and a woman of profound faith, Lady Colette's legacy is deeply intertwined with the development of Papua New Guinea, not only through her family's extensive business contributions but also through their long-standing passion for sports. Her influence extended directly into the heart of rugby league through the dedicated service and support of her sons, Adrian Chow, Chairman of the PNG National Rugby League Competition and Ian Chow, owner of the Lae Snax Tigers.

"The rugby league family in PNG has lost a true matriarch and a silent champion of our game, said the PNGRFL Chairman, Sandis Tsaka. Lady Colett's kindness and wisdom nurtured generations, and her support allowed her family to become central figures in the advancement of our national sport. We are forever grateful for the selfless love and care she showed to her community."

"At this difficult time, the PNGRFL extends its deepest and most heartfelt condolences to Adrian, Ian, and the entire Chow family, We pray that you find comfort in the cherished memories of a life so beautifully lived, and may the enduring love of your family and your faith give you strength in the days ahead", said PNGRFL Chief Executive Officer, Stanley Hondina.

The rugby league community and people of Papua New Guinea stand in solidarity with the Chow family as they celebrate her life and bid her a final farewell.

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