

## MINUTES

Friday 20 February 2015 from 10am – 2pm  
TTNQ Boardroom  
51 The Esplanade, Cairns  
Chair: Shenal Basnayake, Advance Cairns

Item #	Agenda Item	ACTION
<b>1.</b>	<b>MEETING OPEN</b>	<b>TIME: 10:10am</b>
1.1	<p><u>Attendees</u> Angelo Finocchiaro (CRC), Sarah Palmer (CRC), Ian McKirdy (DSDIP), Richard Blanchette (CCRC), Peggy Veen (CCRC), Lisa Macalister (MSC), Nicole Van Beuningen (TRC), Darlene Irvine (FNQROC), Christine Reizner (AC), Shenal Basnayake (AC)</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Jann Crase (RDA), Mark Matthews (AC)</p>	
1.2	Previous meeting minutes endorsed: Peggy Veen (CCRC)	
1.3	<p><u>Action Register</u> One incomplete action from last meeting: Follow up with Cairns Chamber in regards to Water Farm in Cassowary Coast Region – Jann Crase</p>	Jann to follow up and provide information
<b>2.</b>	<b>REGIONAL ROUND UP</b>	
2.1	<p><u>Other Agencies (RDA, DSDIP, FNQROC)</u></p> <p><b>FNQROC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the RDA: Alan Dale appointed for second term as Chair, Bill Shannon and Bronwyn Voyce Co-Chair. The RDA will be advertising for CEO in the coming weeks.</li> <li>The roundtable on the Productivity Reform will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> March. FNQROC will make a submission to the Distribution Reset Proposal.</li> <li>QCA tariff review for 2016, submission from FNQ Electricity User Group (comprising of FNQROC, CRC, AC and Industry).</li> <li>State Elections: Correspondence to local members introducing FNQROC and addressing regional issues has been sent. The letter is 6 pages long and covers issues from NRRRA to Roads. A letter has also been sent to Deputy Premier Jackie Trad and Assistant Minister to the Premier on North Queensland Coralee O'Rourke.</li> <li>Angelo Finocchiaro is a member of the Economic Development Reference Advisory Group (TBC) – these are quarterly meetings in Brisbane – Angelo may be able to take collateral to these meetings.</li> <li>NDRRA – FNQROC will be monitoring the outcomes and issues in the south. The Productivity Commission Report is with Cabinet (but there is uncertainty around whether it will emerge from cabinet and even more so whether it will be</li> </ul>	

	<p>implemented).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Mountain Bike Plan – interim report due today, final report, open for feedback and consultation available in early April.</li> </ul> <p><b>DSDIP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IFED has received \$15 million funding for a feasibility study and EIS, it is a coordinated project and there are 18 months to complete this.</li> <li>Kidston Mine is to be converted to hydropower plant.</li> <li>RegionsQ showcase is still “a maybe” but is likely to be postponed.</li> <li>Evolve or Die Forum, the DTESB forum for Mentoring For Growth is on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March. The forum will address the challenges of a rapidly changing business environment and how to survive and thrive in a rapidly changing economy.</li> <li>DSDIP is working with council in regards to the FNQ Commonwealth Gap Analysis. Basketball heats and live venue celebrations may be hosted in Cairns</li> <li>DSDIP and council are working on a supply chain project for PNG</li> <li>Royalties for the Region – Labor will honour commitments for round 4 funding. However, council applications and department applications are to be reviewed. Angelo will send information regarding Labor’s Royalties for the Region promises to the group. Round 4: 21% funding for FNQ – \$17 million.</li> <li>Mt Emerald Windfarm – The application remains with the new Deputy Premier, thus restarting the consultation period</li> <li>Cairns shipping redevelopment - Labor supports no dumping on the reef therefore it is likely that only land based disposal options will be considered.</li> <li>Darren Cleland now the Regional Executive Director (covering the region from Gladstone to the Cape and the Northern Territory Border) is now based in Townsville.</li> <li>Ian is the acting Regional Director until 20<sup>th</sup> March followed by Robyn Clarke for 7 weeks.</li> </ul>	<p>Ian to send invitation to the Evolve or Die Forum to the LGEDRG Group</p> <p>Angelo to send information regarding Royalties for the Region to the LGEDRG Group.</p>
2.2	<p><b><u>Advance Cairns</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advance Cairns 5 year strategy is almost complete. The Board and Organisation has determined path moving forward. Miranda Wei and Kezia Samaniego joined the Advance Cairns Economic Development Team. CEO will focus on lobbying and advocacy with Shenal leading the Economic Development Team.</li> <li>Advance Cairns BEC did not receive ASBAS funding. The BEC is to wrap up its operations within the month. 5 organisations in Queensland received the funding, including Gulf Savannah Development.</li> <li>Advance Cairns received \$150,000 DATSIMA funding and will now run “My Great Business”. The intention is to encourage migrants into business by offering stall equipment at the Sunday Markets for migrant stallholders. Funding will go towards stalls, tents and advertising.</li> <li>With the BEC closing, a resource list is available on DTESB BIP (Business Industry Portal).</li> <li>Leading up to the recent State elections Advance Cairns was particularly successful in the lobbying and funding commitments achieved from the LNP side. Advance Cairns Board and Officers are actively engaging with Labor to advocate for 8+8 and other regional priorities. 8+8 does not change regardless of the change in Government therefore Advance Cairns continues to advocate against these. During the year the team will travel to Brisbane &amp; Canberra to engage directly with different levels of bureaucracy.</li> <li>The Advance Cairns relationship with KAP and PUP is robust and well.</li> </ul>	
2.3	<p><b><u>LGAs</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>TRC</u> – Southern Atherton Tablelands Development Scheme has been presented with some of the information around the Herbert River. The QLD Agriculture Audit identifies the opportunity for irrigated land with the Herbert River Dam.</li> <li>TRC is sponsoring the Start-Up Weekend Tablelands in the first week of May. The event is targeted at agriculturalists, indigenous, mothers. Bronwyn Voyce will be coordinating the projects for TRC.</li> </ul>	



## MSC

- Hiatus of Tropical Food Safari scheme in Mareeba will end during the “grey nomad season”.
- Successful in the Vision 2017 grant, the program Go Digital Kuranda will be launched soon in conjunction with Dive into Digital. The program is to build online capacity through the library. Predominantly workshops running for 4-6 months and targeted at the artisan community in Kuranda. Chambers and Tourism Kuranda on board.
- 3 Warren Street VIC – The community engagement process is to be redeveloped. Traffic management and business and community consultations will be about managing busses. Reinvigorating the Park Area, a bicycle rack with indigenous sculptures are considered.
- Election Funding Promises: Waste Water Treatment Scheme is a focus and is likely to be funded by the QLD Gov. however funding for the Aerodrome promised by the LNP is unlikely to be matched and will be up for sale after it is costed.
- TTNQ Event Strategy to position signature events: FN Rotary Field Day on the cards. Great Wheelbarrow Race – to receive the most funding. The event is targeted at corporate teams and community groups to raise money, may assess how this can be aimed at tourists.
- The Chillagoe visitor centre is no longer accredited but is open from 8.30 to 3.30, 7 days a week. Digital Kiosk is a possibility in the future.
- Negotiations between the Museum Community and the Council as to who will run the VIC at the Mareeba Heritage Museum are ongoing.
- Kuranda VIC staffed part time and is the highest visited Centre in the region next to Cairns.
- Council in negotiations with Tourism Kuranda (TK). TK presented to council its marketing strategies. Council has agreed to fund the LTO but performance based and in quarterly payments. The LTO should be sustainable in 3 years and no longer require funding.
- MOU with TFC is being finalised.
- MSC will have to develop a marketing strategy for the Mareeba Industrial Park. The Logan City Council plan has been noted as being a best practice example.

### Visitors:

Tamilyn Brennan: From TJB consultancy. Chair of Workforce North.

- The group provides regular advice to ministerial commission, youth pilot program, department of industry and education. Tamilyn develops regional workforce strategy for whole of region, gathering statistics and information and anecdotal information to show good picture of where we are in this region.
- This informs training providers and governments and supports employment providers both private and public.
- There has been communication with new State Government Treasurer and a dialogue around providing regional specific advice.
- The Get Set for Work program is the youth labour market program. Workforce North is the oversight group for the tourism employment plan reported through Gavin Taylor.
- Report from TTNQ in regards to action plan. Advance Cairns youth employment strategies. Labour market reports Neville chief economist – data department of employment and ABS. Employer recruitment exercise – 31<sup>st</sup> of March invite to be sent out.
- Group directly works with DATSIP – workshop how members of group can support work of DATSIP to make things more effective in the region. Unemployment 8.8%. Participation rate to be at over 60%
- Indigenous employment training policy – Rio Tinto exceed IEP but there is

	controversy over housing sector and remote building services.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b>	
3.1	<p>TNQREP Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review process for 2015 activities has commenced. Advance Cairns is making one on one appointments with lead partner agencies to progress the plan.</li> <li>Some councils still to hand in 2014 responses</li> </ul>	Councils that have not handed in 2014 responses to do so ASAP
3.2	<p>Investment attraction and Promotion</p> <p>Advance Cairns is currently undertaking a range of activities as per below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building direct international relationships with Austrade and Trade &amp; Investment Queensland Commissioners</li> <li>Developing country profiles and international engagement plans for India, Indonesia, China, Japan, PNG, Singapore. The plans will be provided to AC members and other parties interested in engaging with these specific markets and will help inform a strategic approach to establishing bilateral trade with these countries</li> <li>Undertaking work to apply for the AusTrade Asia Business Engagement Grant in May. Working in partnership with Cairns Airport and Silk Air. Project for the export of Aquaculture and Seafood to Singapore</li> <li>Developed Industry capability profiles for Agriculture, Biotech/Biofertiliser, Construction, Education, R&amp;D, Tourism, Tropical Health and Medicine, Aquaculture, Pharmaceuticals, Transport &amp; Warehousing, Biofuels, Tourism. Profiles will be used to provide international and national investors with an overview of the regions diverse portfolio of capabilities</li> <li>Significant work being carried out to target China for establishing firm bilateral trade relations. Miranda Wei is focussed on developing the China country profile but is also looking at establishing relations with Chinese external trade organisations on behalf of Advance Cairns, such as CCPIT</li> <li>Shenal attended the Vibrant Gujarat Summit in India in January. Summit was successful in helping understand the direction the TNQ region needs to take in India to establish bilateral trade ties. Discussions underway with Camson Technologies, an Indian biotech firm who are interested in undertaking research activities in the region in partnership with JCU</li> <li>Advance Cairns in collaboration with Trade &amp; Investment Queensland is planning a Business Mission to India in January 2016. Further details will be provided in due course as currently only early discussions held around which sector within the region's economy will be the focus of the mission. Mission will focus on only one or two industry sectors</li> <li>A new revised Investment Leadership Group is in place with a revised focus. One of the key focus areas for the the new group is to assist Councils review their priority investment projects and plans</li> <li>Advance Cairns has new partnerships with Life Science Queensland (<a href="http://www.lsq.com.au">www.lsq.com.au</a>) and the Queensland Futures Institute (<a href="http://qldfutures.com.au/">http://qldfutures.com.au/</a>) which will be useful for our partnerships in developing regional industrial capabilities in emerging industries such as biotechnology</li> </ul>	
3.3	<p><b>Regions Q</b></p> <p>RegionsQ showcase likely to be postponed.</p>	
3.4	<p><b>NBNCo</b></p> <p>Please refer to attached power point presentation.</p>	

3.5		
3.6	Next Meeting – Refer to <b>Supporting Information</b>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
4.1		
4.2		
4.3		
<b>5.</b>	<b>MEETING CLOSE</b>	<b>TIME: 2:00pm</b>

## **LIST OF ORGANISATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

Advance Cairns (AC)

Mareeba Shire Council (MSC)

Cassowary Coast Regional Council (CCRC)

Tablelands Regional Council (TRC)

Cairns Regional Council (CRC)

Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC)

Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP)

Regional Development Australia – Far North Queensland and Torres Straits (RDA)

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## ACTION REGISTER

	<b>ACTIONS ARISING MEETING:</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
1.3	Follow up with Cairns Chamber in regards to Water Farm in Cassowary Coast Region	Jann Crase	
2.1	Evolve or Die Forum Invitation Flyer to be sent to the group	Ian McKirdy	Complete
2.1	Information about Royalties for the Region election promises to be distributed	Angelo Finocchiaro	Complete
2.1	Shenal to assess whether Advance Cairns will apply for Start Up QLD Grant	Shenal Basnayake	Complete
2.3	Ecoweek information flyers to be sent to the group	Sarah Palmer	Complete
3.1	TNQREP: Councils that have not handed in 2014 responses to do so ASAP	All	

## NEXT MEETING

Venue	TTNQ Boardroom
Dates / Time	
Time	
Minute Taker	