

FNQROC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP ACTION REGISTER & BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS



Meeting No.	16
Meeting	FNQROC LG Economic Development Advisory Group
Date	10 August 2021
Meeting Opened	10:00 am
Venue	'Go To' Meeting - Virtual

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Darlene Irvine (Chair)	FNQROC
Ellen Cox	Cairns Regional Council
Amy Mail	Douglas Shire Council
Katrina Houghton	Economy .id
Lisa Rey	DESBT (Presenter)
Ben Seydel	DESBT (Presenter)
Paula Power	FNQROC
Amy Braes	Mareeba Shire Council
Sonja Johnson	RDA
Charmain Campbell	Tablelands Regional Council
Benjamin Alexander	TIQ
Virginia Berry	DSDILGP
Paul Cranch	LGAAQ
Mark Olsen	TTNQ (Presenter)
Janine Bowmaker	Study Cairns
Jacqui Szafran	CCRC
Cindy Perry	DESBT

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Katie Hatton	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Belinda Hutchinson	DSDILGP
Kelsey Ormsby	DSDILGP
Belinda Down	Dept of Premier and Cabinet
Tracey Wilson	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council
Glenys Pilat	Mareeba Shire Council
Nicole Van Beuningen	Tablelands Regional Council
Professor Allan Dale	JCU / RECoE
Cindy Perry	DESBT
Angelo Finocchiaro	Cairns Regional Council
Dale Bainbridge	Croydon Shire Council
Verena Olesch	Carpentaria Shire Council
Cherie Schafer	Carpentaria Shire Council
Lawrence Booth	Cook Shire Council
Professor Hurriyet Babacan	JCU / RECoE
Tracey Wilson	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council

Welcome and Roundtable Introductions

The Chair welcomed the group The Chair, Darlene Irvine welcomed the group. The meeting was held virtually due to the 3-day Lockdown in Cairns.

Business Arising

All action items from October 2020 meeting are complete.

Item #	PRESENTATION KEY LEARNINGS/OUTCOMES
4.0	<p data-bbox="336 568 911 604">Presentation by Katrina Houghton, Economy .id.</p> <ul data-bbox="336 613 1378 808" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="336 613 1378 808">• Katrina provided a presentation and a snapshot of the National, State and Regional statistics. Katrina emphasised the importance of Census night on 10 August 2021 and how decisions about transport, schools, healthcare, infrastructure and business are made from this data. Economy .id will deliver Census presentations at each release of data April, July and October 2022. <p data-bbox="336 860 1294 931">Presentation by Lisa Rey and Ben Seydel from Department of Small Business and Training</p> <ul data-bbox="336 943 1378 1350" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="336 943 1378 1223">• Lisa and Ben provided a demonstration of the new Business Launchpad. The launchpad is designed to help small business save time and effort in starting up a new small business more successfully. The digital tool will generate a tailored guide of results from the Australian, Queensland and local Governments. The launchpad is being trialled by a number of councils and further councils will be added regularly. Department of Small Business and Training are currently engaging with Councils across the State.<li data-bbox="336 1234 839 1263">• To find out more visit the website: link<li data-bbox="336 1274 959 1303">• Supporting Small Business hotline: 1300 654 687<li data-bbox="336 1314 619 1350">• Business Grants link <p data-bbox="336 1402 1198 1438">Presentation by Mark Olsen, Tropical Tourism North Queensland (TTNQ)</p> <ul data-bbox="336 1447 1378 1682" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="336 1447 1378 1641">• Mark provided a presentation on the influx of Caravans and RV Campers to the region and what impact this is having on the Community. Capturing data on tourist numbers visiting the region through Telstra GPS tracking. TTNQ can provide Council's Economic Development Teams a log-in to access this data. 'Google mobility data'.<li data-bbox="336 1653 922 1682">• Useful tool 'Queensland Camping Toolkit' link

5.0 DSDILGP – Virginia Berry

- The annual Regional Projects Forum is scheduled for 7 October at the Cairns Convention Centre. The event is generally attended by up to 300 people and includes presentations on important upcoming projects in the region, giving an insight into works scheduling for the coming twelve months. The very popular Major Projects Pipeline Booklet listing all the upcoming projects will also be launched at this event.

DESBT – Cindy Perry

- QLD Small Business Hotline: **1300 654 687**
- **2021 COVID-19 Business Support Grants**
Queensland business affected by the August 2021 COVID-19 lockdowns may be eligible to receive a grant of \$5,000 (excluding GST). This grant may be used for business expenses.

In addition, tiered payments based on payroll size for eligible businesses across Queensland will be available.

These payments include an additional:

- \$5,000 one-off, top up to small businesses with payroll of less than \$1.3 million (bringing total grant available to \$10,000)
- \$10,000 one-off, top-up grant to medium sized businesses with payroll of greater than \$1.3 million and up to \$10 million (bringing total grant available to \$15,000)
- \$25,000 one-off, top-up grant to large sized tourism and hospitality businesses with payroll of greater than \$10 million (bringing total grant to \$30,000).
- **2021 COVID-19 Business Support Grants**
 - Queensland-based **non-employing sole traders** who have had a decline in turnover of more than 30% due to Queensland lockdowns commencing 31 July 2021 may be eligible for a one-off \$1,000 grant.
 - **[Register interest here](#)**
- **Business Basics Grant Round 2 (Regional Queensland)**
 - \$5,000 grants for regional Small Business to increase core skills and adopt best practice. Guidelines available 25 August 2021. Applications Open 9am on 8 September 2021, until funds are exhausted.
- **[Small Business Grants Schedule](#)**

RDA – Sonja Johnson

- FIAL Industry Cluster Grant – RDATN awaits the outcome of this grant for the ag & food sector. \$150k for 12 months to galvanise an industry cluster, make it sustainable and focus on core initiatives including delivering elements of the Advance Cairns Export 2030 report, food waste project and planning for a TNQ Food Festival.

- Lakeland Area Irrigation Scheme – continues to progress, some elements are ahead of schedule. Business case due mid-2022.
- Etheridge Ag Precinct – work continues on the positioning this as a priority project for the region. Discussions had with Federal and State governments.
- FNQ Plastics Industry – business case released and working with industry on submissions for the Recycling Modernisation Fund.
- Strategic Regional Planning – work commenced on synthesising various regional plans. RDATN will work through FNQROC to develop the region’s plan.
- French Ambassador Famil – seeking any trade and investment ready businesses to take part in a 2-3 day Famil tour with the Ambassador, specifically in the food sector.

Item#	GENERAL BUSINESS / EMERGING ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES
6.0	<p>FNQROC Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recommendation to review the FNQ Regional Plan was put forward to the FNQROC Board on 14 June 2021 and was approved to proceed to next stages. The FNQROC Chair Michael Kerr has written to Hon Steven Miles MP to seek a review of the FNQ Regional Plan. To date there has been no commitment or date set to review the plan. • The Federal Mayoral Delegation to Canberra 30 August to 2 September 2021 was put on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions in Parliament House. At the FNQROC Board meeting held on 5 August 2021 it was agreed that the Mayoral Delegation would be rescheduled during the next sitting date 22-25 November 2021. • The State Mayoral Delegation to Brisbane has been postponed to early 2022.
7.0	<p>Future direction of the Economic Development Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was discussed whether the group would continue to meet given there are similar meetings being held. The Group agreed that the FNQROC LG Economic Development Advisory Group continue as it was a valuable source of information and worthwhile to connect with network.

Agreed Action/Recommendation from Meeting: 13 August 2021

Item #	ACTION ITEM / RECOMMENDATION	OWNER	STATUS
1	Presentations to be forwarded to Group.	P.Power FNQROC	To be circulated with minutes

The meeting closed at: 12:00pm

Next FNQ Economic Development Group Meeting	
Date / Time	TBA 2021
Location	CAIRNS