



Developing the long term sustainability of our region

Update from the CEO



Welcome to Issue 106!

Another financial year has raced by and I am sure everyone is busy like RDA in closing one year and getting on with the next.

Monsoon event recovery

Funds continue to flow from the Australian and Queensland Governments through the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority. Special Disaster Assistance Recovery grants of \$73.4 million have now been paid to primary producers, \$6.7 million to small businesses and \$0.8 million to not-for-profits that have all been directly impacted by the monsoon event. A further \$6.9 million has been paid to applicants to the North Queensland Restocking, Replanting & On-farm Infrastructure Grants.

For more information on grants and loans, including the new grant of up to \$10,000 for small businesses that were either directly or indirectly affected by the February monsoon event, please see information on page 1.

RDA has continued to play a role in helping to connect community members, insurers and their representatives with local builders, products and service providers. We helped establish a [Townsville Flood Disaster Reconstruction Works](#) project page on the [ICN Gateway](#). Local and regional companies that have products and services that can be supplied for the rebuild can list on the ICN Gateway and register their interest for the project work. Not only do companies promote themselves to the current work opportunities but also position themselves to be better informed about other projects through the ICN Gateway.

Mount Isa visit

Last month our Committee held its meeting in Mount Isa where we also had the opportunity to meet with MITEZ and do a site visit to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) facilities at Mount Isa Airport. The Committee was impressed by the range of projects in which MITEZ is involved and the great work the RFDS does from Mount Isa.

Aviation Development Study

RDA has partnered with the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning to undertake this high level study of opportunities to grow the aviation industry in our region. The final report will be ready in coming weeks.

Science Technology Engineering Arts and Maths—STEAM

RDA is partnering with RDA Hunter and Townsville Enterprise on the development of a STEAM skills initiative in the region to ensure students are ready for the future, employers can secure the skills they need to expand their business, and for the region to attract new investors. Did you know that it has been calculated that if we could move 1% of the workforce into STEAM roles, there would be an increase of \$57.4 billion in the national economy? Locally that would mean a \$570 million plus impact. We will provide further updates on this initiative in the near future.

We hope you find the following information to be helpful to you!

Glenys Schuntner

Chief Executive Officer



RDA Committee

Mr Frank Beveridge

Chairman



Managing Director
F and S Beveridge
Investments

Mr David Donohue

Deputy Chair



Managing Director
Queensland Corporate
Communication
Network Ltd.

Mr Chris Briggs

Secretary



General Manager
Sealink Queensland

Cr Mary Brown

Treasurer



Deputy Mayor
Hinchinbrook Shire
Council

Prof. Sabina Knight



Director
Mount Isa Centre for
Rural and Remote
Health

Cr Jack Bawden



Mayor
Carpentaria Shire
Council

Cr John Woods



Councillor
Burdekin Shire
Council

Cr Greg Campbell



Mayor
Cloncurry Shire
Council

Cr June Kuhl



Deputy Mayor
Richmond Shire
Council

If you are interested in joining the Committee, please visit <https://rda.gov.au/join-your-rda/> and for further information specific to our RDA please call 07 4410 3655.



An Australian Government Initiative

Monsoon Recovery Related Information

The Insurance Council of Australia has multiple websites:



<https://www.insurancecouncil.com.au/>

<http://understandinsurance.com.au/>

<http://www.insurancecouncil.com.au/for-consumers>

<https://disasters.org.au/>

<http://codeofpractice.com.au/document>



The Australian and Queensland Governments have announced new disaster recovery grants of up to \$10,000 are now available for small businesses that were **either directly or indirectly affected** by the February monsoon event. Funding is available for building resilience and undertaking repairs. The resilience grants are for small businesses that were either inundated or affected by the monsoon. Repairs funding is only available to those who were inundated.

All criteria and explanations of eligibility can be found at

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/starting-business/advice-support/grants/disaster-recovery>

Information sources

Claims Process Fact Sheet and Insurance Company contact details

<https://disasters.org.au/recovery-document>

How to make an insurance claim

<https://disasters.org.au/how-to-claim>

FAQs about insurance

<https://disasters.org.au/faqs>

How to make a complaint about an insurance claim

<https://disasters.org.au/complaints>

Building insurance and the scope of works process

<https://disasters.org.au/news/2018/7/2/building-insurance-and-the-scope-of-works-process-what-is-it-and-why-is-it-necessary>

Rebuilding after a natural disaster

<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/home-maintenance/rebuilding-after-natural-disaster>

Organisations to assist

Australian Financial Complaints Authority

<https://www.afca.org.au/>

Queensland Building and Construction Commission

<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/>

Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA)

<http://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/>

Grants and Loans

QRIDA Disaster Recovery Grants and Loans

<http://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/current-programs/Disaster-recovery>

[Centrelink Far North Qld Floods, February 2019 – Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payments](#)

Up to \$1,000

Closing 30 August 2019

[Dept of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors \(Qld\) – Essential household contents grant](#)

Up to \$5,3000 – ongoing

[Dept of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors \(Qld\) – Essential services safety and reconnection grant](#)

Up to \$4,200 – ongoing

[Dept of Housing and Public Works \(Qld\) – Rental Grants](#)

Undisclosed – ongoing

[Qld Government – Essential services hardship assistance grant](#)

Up to \$750 – ongoing

[RACQ – Drought Relief](#)

Up to \$200,000 – ongoing

[Regional Investment Corporation—AgRebuild loans](#)

Up to \$5 million—available until 30 June 2020

Another New Monsoon Grant Now Open

Grants of up to \$150,000 each are now available to help FNQ & NQ communities recover from the 2019 Monsoon Trough, thanks to a \$4.5 million Round One recovery package being jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments.

Queensland-based community groups, local councils, non-government organisations, peak & industry groups, and research bodies delivering in or to the monsoon-impacted local government areas are encouraged to apply for either or both small grants (between \$2,500 and \$50,000) or large grants (between \$50,001 and \$150,000) to support events, activities and programs that drive community recovery activities, increase awareness and build local resilience.

Click below for the updated Funding Information Paper—dated July 2019 to assist you to determine if groups are eligible, and how to submit an application.

Applications close 2pm, Monday 5 August 2019.

More information on the grants is available at <https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/funding> including links to the application forms via SmartyGrants.

For information or queries not contained in the Funding Information Paper, contact grantqueries@communities.qld.gov.au

Annual IAQ/QMCA Breakfast—6 August, 2019

2019 Queensland Major Projects Pipeline Report Launch—Townsville

Authored by BIS Oxford Economics, Queensland Major Contractors Association and Infrastructure Association of Queensland, the report is a mainstay of government policy, media commentary and influence, as industry actively pursues and delivers the transformational projects that employ people, connect communities and drive the long term economic and social wellbeing of the state.

The 2019 Queensland Major Projects Report will be the essential guide to industry and the projects that Queensland needs for long term financial and social prosperity – don't miss out on the Townsville launch.

VENUE: The Ville, Townsville
DATE: Tuesday, 6th August 2019
TIME: 7.00am — 9.15am

<https://www.iaq.com.au/events/6-august-2019-2019-queensland-major-projects-pipeline-report-launch-townsville/>



RDA Hosted an Infrastructure Australia Roundtable

RDA was proud to recently host and facilitate a Roundtable meeting to introduce Romilly Madew, the new CEO for Infrastructure Australia (IA) and Anna Chau, Executive Director Project Advisory to local infrastructure owners and operators including the Port of Townsville, Townsville Airport Pty Ltd, Aurizon, Telstra and Optus.

Key economic development allies such as the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning and Townsville Enterprise and the Townsville Chamber also attended.

IA provided an introduction to their organization and key focus areas including the current national audit of infrastructure and development of the new Infrastructure Priority List.

Local infrastructure owners provided an introduction to their facilities, capacity, developments and priorities going forward.



RDA hosted IA Roundtable
June 2019

Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative

Good progress is being made on this significant defence initiative. Land acquisitions are now being finalized in the Greenvale area.

"The Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative (ASMTI) will see the delivery of enhanced military training areas in Central and North Queensland that will benefit the Australian Defence Force (ADF), provide significant local economic opportunities, and enhance Defence's bilateral relationship with Singapore. Under the Initiative, Singapore will invest approximately AUD 2 billion to acquire, design, develop and construct military training areas through expanding the existing Shoalwater Bay Training Area (SWBTA) and establishing a new training area in North Queensland. When the Initiative reaches maturity, up to 14,000 Singapore Armed Forces personnel will conduct training in Central and North Queensland over 18 weeks a year for 25 years." - sourced from the website below.

To register for newsletters, sign up at <http://www.defence.gov.au/Initiatives/ASMTI/>

ICTC 2019 Transformative Cities Conference—October 2019

The International Cities, Town Centres and Communities (ICTC) Society invites you to join them at the 19th ICTC Conference - Transformative Cities, to be held at The Ville Resort, Townsville from 23 to 25 October 2019.

The ICTC Conference brings together a diverse cross-section of city leaders and urban place professionals. Participants will discuss, interact, workshop and showcase best practice, learn from one another and experience first-hand the challenges and opportunities.



For more details: <https://pulseevents.eventsair.com/ictc-2019>

Growing for Queensland

From the Queensland Government:

Be a part of a new vision for Queensland's food and fibre sector

Let's talk about how our iconic agribusiness and food sector can grow and function in the years ahead. Join the conversation at our online engagement hub. Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries Mark Furner said the sector is on the cusp of a wave of innovation, driven by growing demand for food and fibre, digital revolution, and the need to address the climate change challenge. The Growing for Queensland discussion paper will spark conversations about how we use new ways of thinking to grow a trusted, profitable and sustainable agribusiness and food sector.

We're asking you to be part of a new vision for our food and fibre industry.

Join the discussion: <https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/growing-for-queensland>



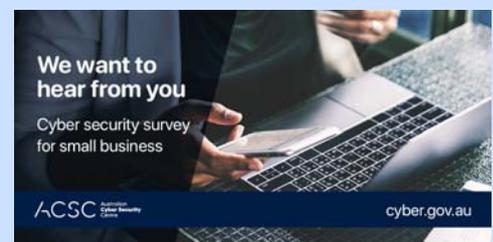
Australian Cyber Security Center Survey

The Australian Government's Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) is seeking input from small businesses to better understand their knowledge of and attitude towards cyber security. By receiving input directly from small businesses, the ACSC can ensure the technical advice they provide is actionable, relevant and tailored to the small business environment.

To do this, they need small businesses to participate.

The survey is 9 minutes long, anonymously submitted, and does not ask for sensitive or personal information unless participants opt in for a follow up survey (in which case an email is required to send the link). It will be open until late September 2019 and the information small businesses provide will directly inform the topics of advice, the priority/schedule of that advice, and how ACSC tailor it to the small business environment.

Please help the ACSC better serve you by completing the [Survey](#)



Indigenous Evaluation Strategy

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has engaged the Productivity Commission to develop a whole-of-government evaluation strategy for policies and programs affecting Indigenous Australians.

The project is expected to help policy makers and communities determine whether government policies and programs are achieving their objectives, what influences whether government policies and programs are effective, and how government policies and programs can be improved.

The Productivity Commission has started consulting with a range of stakeholders, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations. All levels of government will be consulted, as will non-Indigenous individuals and organisations with responsibility for administering and delivering relevant policies and programs. Consultations will be held in metropolitan, regional and remote locations.

Submissions are now being accepted. The Productivity Commission has released an issues paper to guide people who may wish to lodge a submission. The closing date for initial submissions is **23 August 2019**.

Further information about the project, including the [issues paper](#) is available from the [Productivity Commission](#).

Australian of the Year—2020

In 2020, the Australian of the Year Awards marks 60 years of celebrating individuals whose achievements and contributions go above and beyond the expected.

It only takes one nomination to give an inspiring Queenslander—athletes, artists, conservationists, philanthropists or scientists—the recognition they deserve.

Nominations can be made across four categories:

- Australian of the Year
- Senior Australian of the Year (those aged 65 years or over)
- Young Australian of the Year (ages 16 to 30)
- Australia's Local Hero.

Nominations close **Friday 31 July 2019**.

Click here to nominate: <https://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/>



Box Office Hot Screen Director to Tutor Early Career Regional Screen Directors

Kriv Stenders (Danger Close, Red Dog), one of Australia's most renowned and critically acclaimed Screen Directors will be a guest tutor at Screenworks Directing Intensive in Byron Bay on 24th and 25th August 2019. Along with a leading Australian Documentary Director who is yet to be announced, the two Directors will advise selected early career regional screen directors on technique, skills and project development for drama and documentary film and television.

Applications are now open for early career screen directors living in regional NSW, **regional Queensland** and Western Australia to apply for Screenworks Directing Intensive. This two-day program is delivered in partnership with the Australian Directors' Guild (ADG), Linnaeus Estate Education Fund and with support from Create NSW, as well as support for individual participants from Screen Queensland and Screenwest.

The deadline for applications is 22nd July 2019.

For more information, please contact Lisa O'Meara Screenworks Programs and Operations Manager—programs@screenworks.com.au or 02 6681 1188



Australian Jobs

The update of Australian Jobs has been published. The publication provides an overview of trends in the Australian labour market to support job seekers and providers, career advisers, those considering future training and work and people interested in labour market issues.

The analysis in this publication provides an introduction to and overview of some of the factors which can be considered in understanding employment conditions and trends.

Click here for the PDF: <https://docs.jobs.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/australianjobs2019.pdf>



Small Business Financial Counsellor Programme Charter

The purpose of the Small Business Financial Counsellor (SBIFC) Programme is to provide free financial counselling to non-rural business operators who are suffering financial hardship and to manage the challenges presented by the current environmental and ongoing economic conditions.

The SBFC is an initiative of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and supported and delivered by Rural Financial Counselling Service North Queensland Inc.



Objectives

The objectives of the SBFC Programme are to:

- Assist Small-Medium Enterprise (SME) operators' requesting financial counselling with a financial analysis consisting of annual, or year in year out cash flow budget, Statement of Assets and Liabilities, Cash flow analysis and options for business improvement;
- provide clients with access to financial information, options, decision support and referrals to other sources of industry, professional and government assistance to develop longer term strategies and plans to improve preparedness and resilience to drought and other climate variabilities
- empower clients to make their own decisions on how to most effectively manage change and adjustment issues
- Refer operators to a network of professional service providers for advice with legal, accounting and financial planning and investment matters and social and welfare matters

Contact SBIFC for more information: tvf.sbfc@rfcsnq.com.au or 0477 122 123

One-on-one's with Council

Capital Expenditure and Operational Procurement

Every other Wednesday, between 9 am and 10 am, members can book a 15 minute one-on-one appointment with a senior procurement officer.

- Hand-deliver your capacity statement.
- Talk about your goods and services.
- Ask questions.

Click this link and follow the link to register: <https://mailchi.mp/townsvillechamber/procurement-one-on-one-with-council-1597819?e=fedb6d4e84>



Grants

Business Development Fund Grant

The Business Development Fund (the Fund) is the Queensland Government's \$80 million angel and venture capital funding available to Queensland businesses. The intention of the Fund is to support the growth of innovative businesses and the creation of high-value jobs as well as attract both interstate and international investments in Queensland, thereby strengthening Queensland's entrepreneurial and start-up eco-system.

More Information: <https://www.grants.services.qld.gov.au/#/service-details/64601?answers=1002,-2000,-4000,-3000,-5000&sortBy=status&sortDir=desc>

Jobs and Regional Growth Fund

The \$150 million Jobs and Regional Growth Fund is part of the government's broader Jobs and Regional Growth Package, targeted at growing regional economies and creating long-term jobs for Queenslanders. The fund is helping to facilitate private sector projects that create employment and economic growth opportunities in regional areas. The fund focuses primarily on regions outside South East Queensland however, projects located in all areas with higher than average unemployment may be considered.

More Information: <http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/industry/industry-support/jobs-and-regional-growth-fund.html>

Biofutures Industry Development Fund

The fund is a \$5 million repayable fund to help well-advanced industrial biotech proponents to get large-scale projects through the final stage of financial due diligence to secure financing from investors. The fund helps companies with new projects reach a point at which they can better access venture capital, supporting companies pursuing innovative industrial biotech and bioproducts projects and enhancing Queensland's reputation as a supportive investment location for the biofutures industry.

More Information: <http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/industry-development/biofutures-industry-development-fund.html>

Advanced Manufacturing Early Stage Research Fund

The AMESRF is a \$4 million funding initiative, and forms part of the \$100 million Advanced Manufacturing Fund which will boost innovation, skills and employment in advanced manufacturing. The grant will run over four years with funding of \$1 million per year from 2017–18 to 2020–21. The intent of the AMESRF is to support small-scale and pilot research projects in advanced manufacturing, and benefit smaller firms and early stage research. The fund will provide grants to SMEs for rapid initial feasibility testing, allowing the projects to then move quickly to larger-scale research or commercialisation.

More information: <https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.GO.show&GOUUID=391495CD-04C4-F717-20738F039469EE31>

Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program

The objective of the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program is to contribute to the development of a highly skilled and relevant Australian workforce that supports economic sustainability and competitiveness. The Program contains a range of employer incentives and personal benefit payments to Australian Apprentices. The Program links into the industries and occupations traditionally associated with the apprenticeship system. In addition, the Program targets a broad range of traineeships and apprenticeships in new and emerging industries especially where future skills shortages are projected.

More information : <https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.GO.show&GOUUID=5157B05B-DA65-E93F-A347E0465D88D221>

Social Media Workshops and Courses

Business Station has partnered with RDA Brisbane to deliver the **Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) Digital Solutions** program throughout Queensland.

The program delivers low cost, high quality, digital advisory services to small businesses (0-19 employees) in metropolitan and regional areas across four key areas:

- Facebook for Business—24 July
- Facebook Marketing for your Business—31 July
- Instagram for Business—14 August
- Instagram Marketing for your Business - 28 August
- LinkedIn for Business—11 September
- LinkedIn marketing for your Business—25 September
- Introduction to digital marketing and social Media—9 October
- Develop your social media marketing strategy—23 October

Click here for further information: <https://asbas.rdabrisbane.org.au/townsville-workshops>



Grants

From the Australia Post —2019 Australia Post Community Grants Program

We're offering grants of up to \$10,000 for eligible projects that provide positive benefits for your community. More than ever, local communities play a vital role in shaping the future of our nation, and Australia Post is there to lend a hand, providing essential services that help people connect with each other. That's why our grants program aims to support projects that bring people together around what matters most in their communities.

- Help people connect with each other through group activities (e.g. volunteering programs, civic engagement and environmental activities)
- Reduce barriers to participation in community life (e.g. transport, ability to pay, or access to community spaces), or
- Develop skills and leadership capability to strengthen community networks

Applications close - 4 August 2019 at midnight (AEST)

Click here for more information:

<https://auspost.com.au/about-us/corporate-responsibility/our-community/local-support/community-grants-program/2019-community-grants>

From Qantas—Qantas Regional Grants

Be a champion for regional Australia and share in \$5million in funding over 5 years.

Since 1920, when Qantas was founded in outback Queensland, we've been supporting regional communities. And now through the Qantas Regional Grants Program, we're aiming to help these communities sustain brighter futures. That's why we're offering the chance to share \$5 million in grants - \$1 million each year over five years - to charities, organisations, causes, projects and individuals that help deliver direct services or benefits to regional communities.

Round 1 closes—30 August

Click this link for more information: <https://www.qantas.com/au/en/about-us/our-company/in-the-community/qantas-regional-grants.html>

Training and Workshops

Webinar: Smarter finance for smart farmers

A suite of attractive farm business loans have recently been launched by the Regional Investment Corporation (RIC).

The RIC has three different loans available for farmers depending on their circumstances.

- Farm Investment Loan
- Drought Loan
- AgRebuild Loan (North Qld Flood)

Date:	Thursday, 1 August, 2019		
Time:	12.30pm—1.30pm	Cost:	Free
Location:	Webinar		
Register:	https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1500020133083781899		

Briefing: Multicom Resources & Yurika Energy

Briefing will provide an overview of Multicom Resource's Saint Elmo Project and Charles will provide an update on Yurika Energy's North Queensland activities.

Special speakers, Shaun McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer of Multicom Resources and Charles Rattray, Executive General Manager of Yurika Energy.

Date:	Monday, 22 July, 2019		
Time:	3.30pm—5.00pm	Cost:	\$203.21
Location:	North Queensland Club 146 Denham Street, Townsville		
Register:	https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mesca-townsville-briefing-multicom-resources-yurika-energy-tickets-59748549520?aff=ebdssbdestsearch		

It's time to close the deal— with the perfect elevator pitch!

You have a plan to grow your business into global markets, you know which investors or funders to target and possess the documents required to convince them you have what they need and now it's time for the elevator pitch.

This workshop will teach you all the elements of a great pitch and empower you with the confidence you need to pitch to buyers or investors.

Date:	Wednesday, 24 July, 2019		
Time:	9.00am—12.00pm	Cost:	Free
Location:	Townsville RSL		
Register:	https://tiq.secure.force.com/dc/reg/regional-network---get-pitch-ready---townsville---2019		