



Developing the long term sustainability of our region

## Update from the CEO



Welcome to Issue 103!

### Big win for our major project—IQ-RAP

This week we welcomed the Australian Government's commitment of \$730 million from the Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) initiative to road corridors in northern Queensland. Approximately \$540 million of this allocation is expected to be directed towards projects identified through the Inland Queensland Roads Action Project (IQ-RAP) that we initiated in 2013 and have managed on behalf of all partners—28 local governments, 5 RDAs and RACQ, focussing on the inland road network to the west of the Bruce Highway and outside SEQ. ROSI is a 10 year fund with \$1.5 billion allocated for northern Australia and \$2 billion allocated for southern Australia and we are now keen to see further announcements for ROSI funding towards priorities in the southern section of IQ-RAP. Benefits of the road investments will include local jobs, improved safety, improved productivity, lower costs for businesses moving freight and their consumers and opening up of new opportunities for tourism. Costs of operating trucks and moving freight on some roads will be reduced by 30%.

### Disaster Relief Funding

In the following pages you will see information for individuals, businesses and not-for-profits that has come from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority website and others. I hope you can share information with family, friends and colleagues across the region and encourage those who may benefit to access the services, support payments and loans that are available. If you operate a business and are in doubt about your eligibility to apply for a grant or loan, please don't hesitate to contact QRIDA for advice. <http://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/>

### Local content in recovery with a special focus on insurance spend on housing and civil construction and retail spend

RDA through a local content committee has helped facilitate discussions between insurance representatives, construction panel providers and local peak industry organisations to share information and opportunities in the flood repairs in Townsville as well as discussing longer term opportunities for positioning local companies ahead of disasters to be ready for repair works. The monsoon event overall has now created nearly 26,000 claims, worth more than \$1 billion. 9% of claims are from businesses with 22% of the value of claims coming from businesses. For more information from the Insurance Council of Australia visit <https://disasters.org.au/fnq-monsoon-event-data>

### Regional Employment Trials Program (RETP)

This program continues and we are seeking new applications! For more information about opportunities to fund innovative solutions for creating pathways for unemployed into new employment, I encourage you to visit the Department of Jobs and Small Business website: <https://www.jobs.gov.au/regional-employment-trials-program>

### Glenys Schuntner

Chief Executive Officer



Facebook and Twitter

### RDA Committee

#### Mr David Donohue

Acting Chair



Managing Director, Queensland Corporate Communication Network Ltd.

#### Prof. Sabina Knight

Acting Deputy Chair



Director, Mount Isa Centre for Rural and Remote Health

#### Mr Chris Briggs

Secretary



General Manager, SeaLink Queensland

#### Cr Mary Brown

Treasurer



Deputy Mayor, Hinchinbrook Shire Council

#### Cr June Kuhl



Deputy Mayor, Richmond Shire Council

#### Cr Greg Campbell



Mayor, Cloncurry Shire Council

#### Cr Jack Bawden



Mayor, Carpentaria Shire Council

#### Cr John Woods



Councillor, Burdekin 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.



## \$730M Roads Federal Funding for North Queensland

The Australian Government's \$730 million investment to upgrade rural and regional roads proves how important the industries of west and north Queensland are to the future of our nation, according to the Inland Queensland Roads Action Project (IQ-RAP) Working Group.

The Australian Government announced this week that this investment is expected to seal or upgrade around 700 kilometres of road, the equivalent of building a new road from the Gold Coast to Rockhampton.

IQ-RAP Working Group, Chair, Cr Rick Britton said this has been a huge win for the region.

"This shows what can be achieved when working collaboratively from the grass roots up" Cr Britton said.

RDA CEO, Glenys Schuntner welcomed this significant investment. "This project has demonstrated what strong leadership, a vision and an enduring collaborative effort across local governments, RDA committees and partners like RACQ can achieve for the benefit of regional Queensland communities, local businesses and industries like tourism, agriculture and mining."

The IQ-RAP has been delivered by a partnership of 28 local governments, 5 RDA Committees and RACQ.

"This road funding truly reflects the importance of regional Queensland to the national economy".

The investments will concentrate on strategic corridors that will help spur new business and new jobs in North Queensland, including:

- Townsville to Tennant Creek - \$200 million;
- Yeppoon to Mount Isa - \$190 million;
- Townsville to Roma - \$100 million; and
- Cairns to the Northern Territory border (Savannah Way) - \$50 million

The IQ-RAP Working Group looks forward to the roll out of funding to create jobs, and benefits for communities and business across the north and north west regions and furthermore looks forward to commitments in the southern section of the IQ-RAP region from the southern allocations of the Roads of Strategic Importance initiative.



Many people have been involved in the IQ-RAP over its five years.

- The IQ-RAP commenced in 2013 under RDA TNWQ Chair Paul Woodhouse, and continued under successive chairs Angelo Coco, Frank Beveridge and David Donohue.
- Cr Rick Britton, then an RDA TNWQ committee member, first raised the topic of roads and suggested RDAs talk to each other about the road network challenges in QLD in August 2013.
- RDA TNWQ took up the challenge to develop the IQ-RAP initiative and lead, manage and implement the project since then.
- Successive chairs of the IQ-RAP have included, Cr Rick Britton, Cr Butch Lenton, Cr Peter Maguire and then Cr Rick Britton again nearly 3 years ago and at the same time Tom and Jane became Deputy Chairs.
- Cr Rick Britton, Cr Jane McNamara and Cr Tom Gilmore have been tireless advocates for IQ-RAP and in the last year have funded their own travel for IQ-RAP advocacy in Canberra and Brisbane after funds ran dry.
- Working Group members current and past have consistently supported the project with their monthly attendance and input to strategy and actions, and advocacy in their meetings with stakeholders.
- 47 funding partners have been involved throughout the project.



## Meeting with Minister Matt Canavan

RDA had the pleasure of hosting and briefing Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan, Minister for Resources and Northern Australia and State MPs Lachlan Millar and Michael Hart.

Topics included economic recovery from the floods, IQ-RAP, inward investment work, support for the north and north west Queensland ROC priorities and also our collaboration in the Northern RDA Alliance and its support of the Built to Perform in Northern Australia report.

Mr Lachlan Millar, Minister Matt Canavan,  
Mr David Donohue, Acting Chair RDANWQ and  
Mr Michael Hart



## Announcements — Building Better Regions — Round Three

Funding offers for the Building Better Regions Fund — Round Three for Community Investments Streams have been announced.

### Community Investments Stream

8 projects in our RDA region secured a total of \$317,718 in funding enabling \$477,036 of projects. These projects are:

- **Palm Island Aboriginal Council:** \$45,000 to fund the Palm Island Aquaculture Industry Development Strategy.
- **Cloncurry Shire Council:** \$20,000 to prepare an Indigenous cultural Tourism Strategic Plan.
- **Charters Towers Regional Council:** \$75,000 to develop a tourism strategy for the Charters Towers region and \$18,900 for training course focusing on Asset-Based Community Development.
- **Burdekin Shire Council:** \$19,318 to produce an Economic Development Strategy 2019/20-2025 for Burdekin Shire.
- **Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone Inc:** \$20,000 to deliver the Building Local Leadership Program.
- **Carpentaria Shire Council:** \$100,000 to deliver the Karumba Barra & Blues Festival in Normanton.
- **People First Australia Limited:** \$19,500 to develop Soliders Songs & Voices helping heal service men & women from trauma.

### Infrastructure Projects Stream

9 projects in our RDA region secured a total of \$9,801,816 in funding enabling \$19,433,032 of projects. These projects are:

- **Townsville City Council:** \$1,965,000 for the development of the Castle Hill Experience.
- **Museum of Underwater Art Limited:** \$1,500,000 to develop Stage 2 of MOUA.
- **Cloncurry Shire Council:** \$993,618 to develop a community hub in Florence Clark Park in central Cloncurry.
- **Molongle Creek Boat Club Inc:** \$889,450 towards upgrade of existing boat channel and develop and construct new two storey multipurpose complex.
- **APEX Queensland Youth Camps Limited:** \$225,975 to duplicate ablution block on Magnetic Island.
- **Mount Isa City Council:** \$442,394 towards installation of flood light at Captain Cook and Sunset Oval in Mount Isa.
- **Townsville Turf Club:** \$182,500 to improve and refurbish the female jockey facilities.
- **Yumba-Meta Housing Association Limited:** \$2,890,879 for the construction of Supported Transitional Health Accommodation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island clients.
- **Carpentaria Shire Council:** \$712,000 to upgrade the water supply infrastructure in Normanton.

More information about the Building Better Regions Fund is available at: <http://www.business.gov.au/bbrf>

## Flood Recovery Websites

**Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority** – for information on grants and loans  
The Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) is a specialist provider of government financial and advisory support to rural and regional Queensland.Q

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

**Queensland Reconstruction Authority** – for information on grants and loans, Disaster Resilience Funds  
The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) is the state's lead agency responsible for disaster recovery and resilience policy.

<https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/funding>

**Queensland Building and Construction Commission**

[Natural Disasters FAQs - Contractors](#)

[Insurance Claims - QLD Legal Assistance Form](#)

[Insurance Information for Building Recovery](#)

**Queensland Government**

[QLD Government Self Recovery App](#)

**Insurance Council of Australia**

Information about the number of insurance claims - <https://disasters.org.au/fnq-monsoon-event-data>  
General Insurance Code of Practice - <http://codeofpractice.com.au/>

**Australian Financial Complaints Authority**

<https://www.afca.org.au/make-a-complaint/insurance/>

**Local governments**

Each council across the region has also loaded recovery information on their websites as appropriate

**Recovery After A Disaster**

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/recovery-after-disaster/support>

## Go Local, Grow Local recovery campaign



Queensland small businesses were recently hit hard by flooding. A Go Local, Grow Local recovery campaign has been activated and tailored resources are being created. To stay up to date and help your community recover:

- use #GoLocalQLD and #whateverittakes to share and like Go Local stories on social media
- use the tailored North Queensland Go Local resources:
- request a printed Go Local pack by contacting [communication@desbt.qld.gov.au](mailto:communication@desbt.qld.gov.au)
- download the [advertising toolkit](#) resources.

The Go Local, Grow Local recovery campaign is an initiative of the Queensland Government in partnership with valued local supporters.

For more information: <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/starting-business/advice-support/support/small-business/go-local>

## Small Business Grants double to \$50,000

Small businesses affected by the North and Far North Queensland flooding in the **Townsville City Council** can now access **Special Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants of up to \$50,000** to help pay for the costs of clean-up and reinstatement activities.

### What clean-up and reinstatement costs can I claim?

- hiring or leasing equipment or materials essential to clean-up or for immediately resuming business activities
- removing and disposing of debris, damaged goods and material
- repairing buildings or repairing or replacing fittings in buildings (business premises)
- replacing lost or damaged stock essential for immediately resuming trading
- leasing temporary premises to resume operations
- engaging a person to clean or to conduct a safety inspection of premises
- paying additional wages to an employee to assist with the clean-up work

### Claiming the first \$10,000 grant could be easier than you think!

To apply for an **initial grant up to \$10,000** - applicants need to provide evidence of the direct damage, including photographs, estimates and quotations. Tax invoices and official receipts should be supplied if available.

For **subsequent grant applications** above the initial \$10,000 - full evidence of payment for clean-up and reinstatement costs will be required for all grant funds received (i.e. including the initial **\$10,000**).

**Please note:** Businesses that have insurance can apply immediately for and receive payment, up to the \$10,000 initial grant limit, to meet any eligible costs of clean-up and reinstatement that they know are not covered by insurance, prior to their insurance assessment. In addition, QRIDA will consider including the insurance excess cost (or a portion of the excess cost) up to the initial grant limit of \$10,000.

### How do I apply for these grants?

Go to the QRIDA website and download the [application form and guidelines](#).

QRIDA have representatives at the **Small Business Recovery Hub, 147 Walker Street, Townsville** to assist with applications and queries. To make an appointment to see QRIDA or to find out what other assistance is available to small businesses **call 0459 837 781**.

### What other disaster assistance is available?

#### Small Businesses

[Disaster Assistance Loans](#) up to a maximum of \$250,000 for repairing or replacing plant and equipment, replacing buildings, replacing lost stock and meet carry-on requirements such as sustenance and paying rent and rates.

[Disaster Assistance Loans \(Essential Working Capital\)](#) up to \$100,000 are available for small businesses indirectly impacted by the disaster event to assist with working capital expenses.

#### Non-profit organisation

[Special Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants](#) up to a maximum of **\$50,000** to help pay for the costs of clean-up and reinstatement activities are available for non-profit organisations who have suffered direct damage from flooding in North and Far North Queensland.

[Disaster Assistance Loans](#) up to a maximum of \$100,000 for repairing or replacing damaged equipment, restoring essential premises, including grounds, amenities and infrastructure and replacing lost stock.

[Disaster Assistance Loans \(Essential Working Capital\)](#) up to \$100,000 are available for non-profit organisations indirectly impacted by the disaster event to assist with working capital expenses.

For more information visit our [disaster recovery page](#) or Freecall 1800 623 946 (Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm).

## Training and Workshops

### Online Security and Data Privacy for Business

Cyber security should be at the forefront of a small business thinking when it comes to protection of customer details and adhering to online security legislation.

This workshop will show you the current online security and data privacy systems and software on the market to help safeguard your business.

Dates:	Wednesday, 10 April, 2019		
Time:	5.30pm—7.30pm	Cost:	\$18.41
Location:	Flinders Street Library, Level 1, 280 Flinders Street, Townsville		
Register:	<a href="https://asbas.rdabrisbane.org.au/townsville-workshops/online-security-data-privacy-for-business-10-apr-townsville">https://asbas.rdabrisbane.org.au/townsville-workshops/online-security-data-privacy-for-business-10-apr-townsville</a>		

### Reef Extension Think Tank

Attention all extension service providers, researchers, agronomists, funders, evaluators, policy makers and others working to enable greater change in the Reef catchments.

This is your personal invitation!

Come support large-scale land management practice change, resulting in improved water quality entering the Great Barrier Reef.

Dates:	Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 May 2019.		
Time:	12 noon Wed to 1.30pm Fri	Cost:	Free
Location:	Mercure Townsville 166 Woolcock Street Townsville		
Register:	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/reef-extension-think-tank-tickets-53528856250">https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/reef-extension-think-tank-tickets-53528856250</a>		

### Certificate III in Security Operations

The Townsville Intercultural Centre is currently looking potential candidates to enroll for the free certificate III Course in Security Operations.

Dates:	3 weeks—1st April to 19th April		
Time:	9am—3pm	Cost:	Free
Location:	Contact the Townsville Intercultural Centre		
Register:	Contact the Townsville Intercultural Centre for more information - (07) 4772 4800		

## Grants

### \$300m to help North Queensland Farmers

The Morrison Government has announced further support for flood-affected North Queensland farmers, providing them with up to \$400,000 for restocking, replanting and on-farm infrastructure across two new grants.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the restocking/replanting and on-farm infrastructure grants mean primary producers will have access to cash to start rebuilding their farm businesses when the time is right.

“This seed funding is about helping people get back on their feet faster.

“Locally operated family holdings will have access to up to \$400,000 through two grant programs - one for restocking and replanting, and the other to replace on-farm infrastructure lost and damaged during the floods.

More information to come.

Media release: <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/300-million-help-northern-queensland-farmers-get-back-business-faster>

## Grants cont.

### Festivals Australia

Festivals Australia provides funding to support individual art projects at festivals or significant one-off community events.

Funding is available for projects commencing from 1 July 2019.

**More Information:** <https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.GO.show&GOUUID=B672CD87-D581-5B0A-7C9689B797BB7A5C&fbclid=IwAR3AWG2jRG7mRNxmLmqGbQjRRsGL43LTVK3v6bfB9DKKUEF9gxUd8qBvpeE>

### Queensland Country Good for Good Community Grants

This is a project that makes a practical difference to the lives of people in Queensland communities. We're looking to support projects that enable people to participate, experience, grow, learn, reach out, connect, make a difference and be safe.

**More Information:** <https://qccu.smartygrants.com.au/goodforgood>

### Ergon Energy—Bring it to Life!

Do you have an idea for your community and need help with funding? Our grants program is a helping hand to those in need, to get a great community project or initiative over the line.

**More Information:** <https://www.ergon.com.au/about-us/community/community-fund/bring-it-to-life>

### Fishing Business Assistance grants

Fishing Business Assistance grants provide assistance to directly affected commercial fishers with a recent history of fishing in Australian Marine Parks as they adjust their businesses to the new operating environment.

**More Information:** <https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.GO.show&GOUUID=C8081B4A-C0FF-47B7-10279584490A0C23>

### Previously Promoted Grants Still Available:

Grant	Closing Date	More Information
Defence Global Competitiveness		<a href="https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/defence-global-competitiveness-grants">https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/defence-global-competitiveness-grants</a>
General Fund Grant-making		<a href="https://qcf.org.au/grants/2019-general-grant-online-application/">https://qcf.org.au/grants/2019-general-grant-online-application/</a>

### Business Queensland

Get to know the Queensland Government's revitalised [Business and Industry Portal](#).

Business Queensland provides small businesses direct access to Queensland Government services and information. With just a few clicks and a couple of questions, users can access more than 100 business support programs and obtain information on:

- starting a business
- marketing a business
- growing a business
- employing people
- grants, tools and support services
- industry and market information
- investing in Queensland



**For more information:**

13 QGOV (13 74 68) or <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/>