

04 April 2016

Glenys Schuntner  
Secretariat, IQ-RAP Working Group  
Chief Executive Officer, RDA Townsville & North West Queensland  
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TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810  
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Dear Glenys

The Outback Queensland Tourism Association (OQTA) strongly supports the Pre-Budget submission made by the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP) Project Team. The Plan supports the proposed Queensland Tourism and Transport Strategy currently being developed by the Queensland Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games in partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

The Tourism and Events Industry makes a significant contribution to the Outback regional economy. The three (3) year average visitation data to the Outback to 30 September 2015 shows there were 488,000 domestic overnight visitors and 22,000 international visitors. Domestic visitation alone generated an average of \$316 million for the Queensland economy each year. While the tourism industry is still only a relatively small sector for the destination in comparison to the mining and agricultural sectors, it is seen as part of a sustainable long-term pathway towards a diversified and vibrant economy.

With limited public transport options in the region, the implementation of a framework for investing in a true network of inland roads for Queensland is vitally important for the strategic coordination of tourism development across the region and will no doubt improve the safety of the many visiting road users who are often unfamiliar with the hazards associated with travelling regional roads.

I congratulate the work of the IQ-RAP Project Team to date and commend the application to you.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly on 07 4656 4771 or alternatively via email at [mayor@quilpie.qld.gov.au](mailto:mayor@quilpie.qld.gov.au).

Yours faithfully



Stuart Mackenzie  
**CHAIR**

**CC:** Hon Jackie Trad MP  
Deputy Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade and Investment  
Hon Mark Bailey MP  
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply  
Hon Kate Jones MP  
Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism and Major Events