



Regional  
Development  
*Australia*  
SUNSHINE COAST INC

# QUARTERLY REPORT TO REGION

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA (RDA) SUNSHINE COAST

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Sunshine Coast is part of a national network of 55 committees made up of local leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups to support the development of their region.

The Quarterly Report to Region provides an update on the latest regional trends and key activities and work undertaken by RDA Sunshine Coast.

**Q2**

APR-JUN

2018

*A Sunshine Coast that is innovative, dynamic,  
connected and sustainable*

## HIGHLIGHTS

### DIRECTOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT APPOINTED

After 20 years in the tourism and international development sectors, Phil Harman was appointed **Regional Director of RDA Sunshine Coast**. Phil has wide experience in the public and private sector, spanning tourism, transport, agriculture and education, and has consulted to organisations including the World Bank and UNESCO. Phil took up his position on May 23.



### RDA SUNSHINE COAST COMMITTEE [↗](#)

Advertising for new committee members took place throughout most of March/April, with new appointments announced in June. The new members represent important industry sectors, geographical diversity, and have the necessary mix of skills to make good decisions and get things done for the Sunshine Coast.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

With the new charter for RDA and a new Committee and DRD, key stakeholders were invited to participate in a strategic planning workshop on June 11 to provide input on regional opportunities and constraints to help guide our strategic direction for the next three years.

“ I am passionate about helping to create economic opportunities on the Coast and ensuring that we maintain the region as a great place to live and visit.

[Phil Harman]

### #SCRIPT MILESTONES

#SCRIPT is a collaboration of local entrepreneurs, businesses, government stakeholders and community members dedicated to growing innovation and business capacity on the coast. Sunshine Coast has a strong innovation ecosystem and this funding allows for greater networking and enables more entrepreneurial activity, resulting in more jobs and a boosted economy.

In the past nine months SCRIPT has:

- Coordinated a strong #TeamSunshineCoast presence at Myriad 2018 – the Brisbane innovation and technology festival, including direct financial support to 10 local startups to have a presence and pitch for investment.
- Funded six projects (including Startup Onramp, the Strive project and a new Health Accelerator program) that have applied for and received financial support (from 12 project applications to date).
- Increased the number of partners in the SCRIPT program from 26 to 31 (and growing!).

## HIGHLIGHTS

### #SCRIPT MILESTONES (CONT.)

- Supported and/or delivered events where 600+ people have benefited from speakers, workshops, connections and referrals.
- Commenced work in partnership with the University of the Sunshine Coast on a three-year Regional Innovation Benchmark project to help track, monitor and progress regional innovation initiatives.
- Established the SCRIPT committee and support operations to deliver upon the objectives of the funding program, including liaison with Advance Queensland.

Proudly supported by:



**#SCRIPT**

Read more at: [sunshinecoastinnovation.com.au](http://sunshinecoastinnovation.com.au)

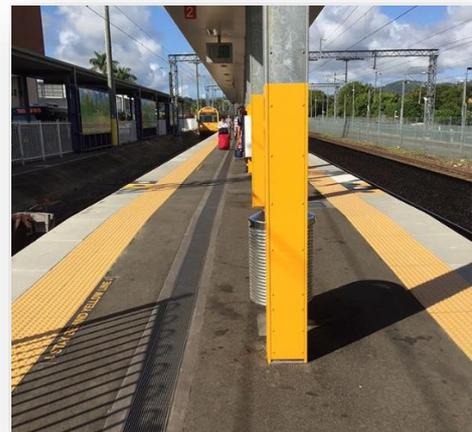
## EMERGING ISSUES / TRENDS

### BUDGET 2018-19 A GOOD STARTING POINT FOR THE SUNSHINE COAST

RDA Sunshine Coast has long been advocating for accelerated transport infrastructure.

The latest Federal Budget tackled two of the key transport infrastructure issues for the Coast – with \$3.3bn committed to the upgrade the Bruce Highway upgrade, and \$390m to the Beerburrum to Nambour rail upgrade.

The Queensland Government also announced funding of \$160.8 million in its recent budget for the rail upgrade– however there is still a shortfall of \$170 million. Given its significance to the region, we will be working constructively with the State and Federal Government's to make sure this project becomes a reality.



## EMERGING ISSUES / TRENDS

### INNOVATION CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE SUNSHINE COAST

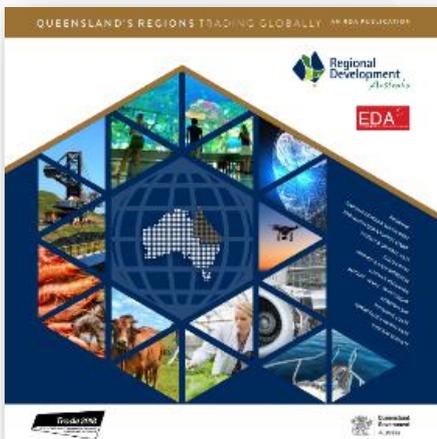
The Sunshine Coast has a unique and flourishing entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem, where industry contemporaries collaborate, and where ideas, entrepreneurs and start-ups are encouraged – and actively supported.

“ *The Coast has been widely recognised for punching above its weight when it comes to entrepreneurship and according to experts across a range of fields, this will stand the region in good stead to tackle rapidly changing work environments well into the future* (McCarty-O’Kane, 2018).

“ *The Sunshine Coast’s metamorphosis from a sleepy collection of disconnected small towns to a vibrant tech-savvy, connected and cosmopolitan region has made Australia sit up and take notice.*

[Leigh Robshaw, [‘How the Coast has changed in 10 years’](#), My Weekly Preview – 21 June 2018]

Read the My Weekly Preview article [‘Millionaire entrepreneur says innovation is key to the Coast’s success’](#) (Roxanne McCarty-O’Kane, 3 May 2018).



### QUEENSLAND'S REGIONS TRADING GLOBALLY (AN RDA PUBLICATION)

The Trade 2018 Queensland and Commonwealth Collaboration and Showcase, included a special edition of [Queensland's Regions Trading Globally](#) to highlight the key sectors and industries with investment and export potential.

The Sunshine Coast economy is one of the largest regional economies in Australia. The combination of the Sunshine Coast region's competitive business environment, unrivalled mix of quality investment opportunities, prime commercial and residential locations, accessibility to global markets, diverse economy, new infrastructure, focus on innovation, highly-skilled and educated workforce, and an idyllic environment and lifestyle makes the Sunshine Coast a location of choice.

# STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

RDA Sunshine Coast representatives attended stakeholder meetings, events, and workshops including:

- Small Business Forum (Fiona Simpson MP)
- Better Business Breakfast, Innovation (Caloundra Chamber of Commerce)
- Transport Community Group (Sunshine Coast Council)
- Federal Budget Breakfast 2018 (BDO)
- Small Business Week Breakfast (Sunshine Coast Chamber Alliance)
- The Retail Evolution Conference (Sunshine Coast Business Council)
- TCI Oceania Cluster Tour, and Conference (TCI Oceania)
- The future of work in Noosa (CCIQN)
- SCRIPT R&D Lab Consultation
- Smart Transport Forum 2018: 'Technology Moving Transport' (Sunshine Coast Council)

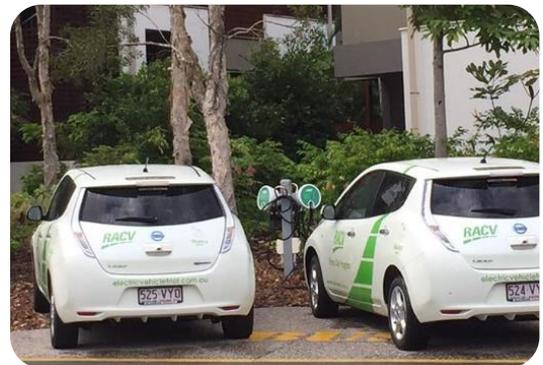
## EVENTS

RDA Sunshine Coast hosted the following events and workshops throughout the April – June period:

- **The Ripple Effect - How YOU can do business with SCUH** (with Sunshine Coast Chamber of Commerce Alliance, Spotless and Wishlist)
- **SMART Transport Forum** (with Mott Macdonald, Liftango, Noosa Council, and Translink)



*The Ripple Effect*



*SMART Transport Forum*

# COMMUNICATIONS

## NEWSLETTERS [↗](#)

- (April) What do Sunshine Toyota, Good Bean and Alltech Industrial Abseilers have in common?
- (May) Budget 2018-19 a good starting point for the Sunshine Coast
- (June) A New Chapter

## IN THE MEDIA

[100,000 hours project comes alive](#)  
[My Weekly Preview, 4 April 2018]

[New ways of doing business outlined](#)  
[Sunshine Coast Daily, 19 April 2018]

[Tourism, global development leader returns to drive RDA](#)  
[Sunshine Coast Daily, 23 April 2018]

[Cars killing the cash flow of our business highway](#)  
[Noosa News, 24 April 2018]

[Former Noosa tourism CEO is back on Coast](#)  
[Noosa News, 24 April 2018]

## MEDIA RELEASES [↗](#)

- How Sunshine Coast employers can help beat traffic congestion
- RDA Sunshine Coast appoints new Regional Director
- RDA Sunshine Coast welcomes new committee members



© BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES: Hans De Koning of Wishlist Sunshine Coast, Jennifer Swaine, Shanna Douglas of RDA, Sunshine Coast Chamber Alliance vice chairperson Linda Delarmotto and Brett Frampton of Spotless, with Jared Woodbine and Jason Robinson of All Tech Industrial abseilers on the steps. Picture: Eric Levey

**BUSINESS**

### New ways of doing business outlined

by Eric Levey  
19th Apr 2018 11:02 AM

FROM abseiling to clean the external windows to fixing chairs, there are many ways for small and medium enterprises to get involved with the Sunshine Coast University Hospital.

The Ripple Effect Forum at the new \$1.8billion hospital at Birtinya showed how SMEs could get involved with SCUH or be able to market their business to the 6000-plus hospital and health staff.

Guest speakers included Brett Frampton of Spotless Group, who explained the responsibilities of Spotless in regard to the lifecycle refurbishment and replacement of fittings and equipment at the hospital.

Hans De Koning of WishlistConnect encouraged businesses to connect with the new pool of health staff to the Coast and how to think differently when talking to them.

## CONTACT US

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