

## November 2018 Newsletter

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### Message from the Interim Chief Executive Officer

#### Advocating for better transport

Sunshine Coast workers currently face average rail speeds of 56km/hr from Nambour to Brisbane – this is slower than all other South-East Queensland (SEQ) rail trips, which have average travel speeds of 60km/hr. In addition, the Sunshine Coast is the only significant urban area (SUA) in Australia which doesn't have CBD passenger rail connection to a capital city, from the new Maroochydore City Centre to Brisbane.

RDA Sunshine Coast is heartened by the Federal Government funded business case progressing for North Coast Connect. North Coast Connect is the only faster-rail project funded in Queensland, with the business case due for completion in March 2019.

The project would dramatically reduce Coast workers' commute times – a much-needed improvement to our way of life. It is aimed at delivering 160km/h faster rail to better



connect Brisbane, Moreton Bay and the Sunshine Coast. This would cut the rail travel time between Brisbane to Nambour, for example, by 45-50 minutes to under one hour.

When operational, North Coast Connect will service 1.5 million commuters – providing more sustainable and safer public transport between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast, plus reducing commuter pressure on the congested Bruce Highway, where there are regular accidents, stoppages and delays. For more information, visit <https://northcoastconnect.com.au>.

Of course, SEQ would also greatly benefit from improved transport infrastructure in light of the Council of Mayors (SEQ) currently conducting a feasibility study into a potential 2032 Olympic Games bid for the region.

Eight SEQ councils are currently funding and participating in an Olympic feasibility study which will investigate whether a regional 2032 Olympic Games bid could be a catalyst for infrastructure and transport investment, boost the economy and raise the region's international profile. This transport and feasibility study is due to be completed by year's end. In other heartening news, a SEQ Olympic Games bid has already received in-principle support from the Australian Olympic Committee.

## **Andrew Quain**

*Interim Chief Executive Officer*

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Sunshine Coast



## **Business Awards countdown**

A Noosa finalists' event heralds the Sunshine



## **GovHack local winners shine**

Three talented Sunshine Coast teams took

Coast Business Awards Gala at Novotel Twin Waters on Saturday, November 17.

[Read More](#)

out major awards at the recent GovHack State Awards ceremony in Brisbane.

[Read More](#)



## SCRIPT Update

Happy first anniversary to the Sunshine Coast Regional Innovation Pipeline Team (#SCRIPT) which helps fuel the culture of innovation on the Sunshine Coast.

[Read More](#)



## Airport backs Coast business

New Sunshine Coast Airport concept store Sunshine Coast 153° East is proudly



## Coast wins Smart City award

Australia's recent first Smart Cities Week in Sydney saw the Coast recognised as the

supporting local industry and businesses.

[Read more](#)

nation's leader in smart cities.

[Read more](#)



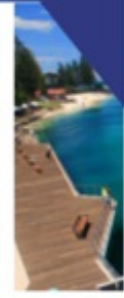
## QUARTERLY REPORT TO REGION



### **Quarterly Report to the Region (Q3)**

The Quarterly Report to Region provides an update on the latest regional trends and key activities and work undertaken by RDA Sunshine Coast. The July-September Quarterly Report to the Region is available on our website now.

[Read more](#)



## Committee member profile: Judy Tomlinson

Each month, we will profile one of the RDA Sunshine Coast Committee members. Read more to find out what they see as the biggest opportunities on the Coast, why they joined the committee, the most interesting thing about them that we won't learn from their résumé - and more!

[Read More](#)

## GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Building Better Regions Fund round three open**

Round three of the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) is now open, with up to \$200 million available to help local governments and not-for-profit organisations build the capacity of regional areas.

This latest funding round will focus on regional tourism, following six Sunshine Coast projects receiving a \$3,168,43 cash injection under round two of the BBRF.

Eligible businesses have until Thursday, November 15 to apply. Contact Regional Development Australia Sunshine Coast Research and Grants Coordinator Sarah Wetton if you would like to discuss an application, via [project@rdasunshinecoast.org.au](mailto:project@rdasunshinecoast.org.au). For more information, visit [www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au).

### **#SCRIPT Advance Regional Innovation Program (ARIP)**

The [Advance Regional Innovation Program](#) (ARIP) will provide \$1 million over 3 years to develop innovation and entrepreneurial activities across the Sunshine Coast region.

**Visit our [Grants & Funding](#) page for more grants and funding opportunities**



#### **Scale Your Business with Social Media Workshop**

Regional Development Australia is delivering the ASBAS Digital Solutions program, Scale your Business with Social Media (all industries), presented by Vaughan Royer.

Small business owners can learn social media methodology to attract more customers, how to gain a lead source and more.

Thursday, November 15, 12.30-2pm  
Maroochydore RSL

[Details](#)

### **GrowCoastal 2019 Applications Open**

Food & Agribusiness Network (FAN) is partnering with the Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast to deliver the GrowCoastal Program - the first food accelerator to be run in the Sunshine Coast region. Participants will engage in weekly business workshop sessions and receive mentoring from an extensive network of local and internationally recognised industry professionals. Applications close November 28.

March 5 to June 18, 2019

[Details](#)

### **Costing and Pricing in NDIS Environment**

Costing and pricing skill and knowledge is a key area for providers to improve business practices to be prepared to operate in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) environment. Together with Curtin University NFP Initiative, NDS has developed a practical and integrated Costing and Pricing Learning Program.

Wednesday, November 28, 9am-4pm  
Building H2 Room 2.09 Design Studio,  
University of the Sunshine Coast

[Details](#)



### **Monty Python Great in Town**

International icon Eric Idle is coming to the Coast! Pre-signed copies of his autobiography, Always Look on the Bright Side of Life, will be on sale. Tickets are \$25 pp.

Saturday, November 24 at 6.30pm  
University of the Sunshine Coast Innovation  
Centre

[Details](#)

## Hot91 Ignite Chilli Festival

Reigniting Caloundra, the Hot91 Ignite Chilli Festival will include cooking demonstrations from celebrity chef Matt Sinclair, roving entertainment, food, music, stalls and of course the annual Chilli Eating Championships.

Saturday, November 17

Caloundra

[Details](#)



## Have your say!






We welcome your feedback about any of our projects or news items featured in our [monthly newsletter](#).

If you have regional news stories or economic development events relevant for the Sunshine Coast community (or even awesome images of this great place we call home that you would like to share!) - please contact us at [media@rdasunshinecoast.org.au](mailto:media@rdasunshinecoast.org.au)

**Editorial deadline is by the 28th of each month.**

## Contact us

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-  Facebook
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-  LinkedIn
-  Website

Regional Development Australia Sunshine Coast is an Australian Government initiative that works in collaboration with the Queensland Government, Sunshine Coast and Noosa Councils to support economic development within the region.



**An Australian Government Initiative**



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