

## August 2019 Newsletter

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### Message from the CEO

#### **Celebrating business and community milestones**

Huge cheers to the Noosa Council-operated Peregian Digital Hub which recently celebrated its first birthday.

RDASC is a big supporter of digital innovation and entrepreneurship on the Sunshine Coast – and the Peregian Digital Hub is at the forefront of this.

The Hub was set up last year to grow Noosa’s digital sector, broaden its local economy and support job creation.

In its short inception, it has achieved much. The Hub has hosted multiple workshops, provided entrepreneurial support to 27 companies, developed after-school Inventor and Robotics programs, mentored 10 high-school inventors and much more.



Big congratulations to Peregian Digital Hub Director Chris Boden and the team!

Other exciting events happening around the Coast include the upcoming 6th annual Australian Regional Development Conference 2019 at Novotel Twin Waters Resort on September 16-17.

This much-anticipated event is critical to connecting industry leaders and sharing vital information on the strategic direction for the progress, growth and investment of the region.

You can register now for the event via [www.regionaldevelopment.org.au](http://www.regionaldevelopment.org.au).

Finally, I was part of the Sunshine Coast Business Council Team who participated in the 2019 Vinnies Community Sleepout Sunshine Coast at the Maroochy Surf Club on August 8.

Both myself and RDASC Committee member Teresa Schmidt were part of an 139-strong business community who slept rough on the night to highlight why homelessness is a growing problem in our community.

The event raised more than \$80,000 for the homeless - an amazing achievement and proof of what can be achieved when we all work together towards a common good.

Thank you for your valued input and support.

**Paul Fisher**

*Chief Executive Officer*

Regional Development Australia Sunshine Coast  
(RDASC)

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**Peregian Digital Hub  
celebrates first birthday**

Big congrats to the Peregian Digital

Hub, which recently celebrated its first birthday.

The Noosa-Council-operated, cutting-edge environment for technology co-workers and entrepreneurs, has achieved much in a year.

The Hub has helped grow Noosa's digital sector, broaden its local economy and support job creation. Bravo to Hub Director Chris Boden (pictured) and the team!

[Read more](#)



## **New free Noosa Council public data and statistics**

Talk about data at your fingertips: Noosa Council's new free public data and statistics portal has made life easier for businesses.

[Read more](#)



## **Regional conference to unlock Coast's potential**

Register now for this RDASC-backed event - the 6th annual Australian Regional Development Conference at Twin Waters.

[Read more](#)

Proudly supported by:



**#SCRIPT**

## **#SCRIPT update**

The Sunshine Coast Regional Innovation Program (#SCRIPT), which is continuing to fuel the culture of innovation in the region, has announced an exciting new team for the second half of 2019. SCRIPT has

proudly welcomed a new Chair and a new Regional Innovation Coordinator.

[Read more](#)

## Mayoral Ball set to raise vital funds for SunnyKids

Get set for this year's Mayoral Ball - in aid of SunnyKids - one of the most iconic charitable events on the Sunshine Coast.

The exclusive white-tie event, which raises funds for at-risk children, young people and families, is being held at the new Sunshine Coast Convention Centre at Novotel Twin Waters. Grab your tickets now!



[Read more](#)



## Sunshine Coast Business Awards applications due soon

Time is running out to enter the prestigious 2019 Sunshine Coast Business Awards, now in its 25th anniversary year.



## Team RDASC raises funds at Vinnies Community Sleepout

CEO Paul Fisher and Committee member Teresa Schmidt slept rough at the charity 2019 Vinnies Community Sleepout.

Read more

Read more



## GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Gambling Community Benefit Fund now open for applications**

Local not-for-profit groups can apply for grants from \$500 to \$35,000 through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF.)

Grant round 102 is now open and will close on August 31, 2019.

This fund - now in its 25th anniversary year - is Queensland's largest one-off community grants program, distributing approximately \$57 million per year.

The fund allocates grants to not-for-profit community groups, to enhance their capacity to provide services, leisure activities and opportunities for Queensland communities.

Apply via <https://buff.ly/315AOfg>.

### **Business Development Fund up for grabs**

Does your business need early-stage, co-investment funding? Fancy between \$125,000 and \$2.5 million?

You may be eligible for the Advance Queensland Business Development Fund (BDF), which focuses on the growth of innovative Queensland businesses, particularly in the emerging industries of tomorrow.

The BDF promotes angel and venture capital investment in Queensland-based businesses.

NB: Applications can be submitted at any time. Eligibility criteria apply.

Visit <https://buff.ly/2STeHGo>.

### **Ignite Ideas Fund opens in September**

Need a handy \$100,000 or \$200,000 cash injection?

The Advance Queensland Ignite Ideas Fund round 6 is expected to open September 2, so get cracking on your applications!

The Ignite Ideas Fund supports startups and small-to-medium Queensland businesses to commercialise innovative products, processes and services to enable them to grow and compete in a global market and create new jobs.

Find out more, and how to apply, via <https://buff.ly/2KlkaSn>.

If you need grant support for a strategic project, email RDA Sunshine Coast Research and Grants Coordinator Ariane Luff via [project@rdasunshinecoast.org.au](mailto:project@rdasunshinecoast.org.au).

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

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

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



#### **Develop your social enterprise**

The Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast is hosting a series of five Business Model Canvas Workshops to develop your social enterprise, using the Business Model Canvas (BMC) framework.

Using the Business Model Canvas (BMC) framework, you'll learn about customer segments, value proposition, channels, customer relationships and more.

The workshops, which are funded by Advance Queensland and the Queensland Social Enterprise Council, run until September 16.

Cost is \$150 or \$100 for Queensland Social Enterprise Council (QSEC) members.

For more information, email [sunshinecoast@gsec.org.au](mailto:sunshinecoast@gsec.org.au) and visit <https://buff.ly/2KWGPGz> for event details.

#### **Register your business with Mentoring for Growth**

The Queensland Government offers a Mentoring for Growth (M4G) program for eligible businesses.

You can gain access to volunteer business experts who provide insights, options and suggestions on the challenges and opportunities you are experiencing in your business.

For more information, visit <https://buff.ly/2AlitPL> and email [m4g@dtesb.qld.gov.au](mailto:m4g@dtesb.qld.gov.au).



### **Tantalise your tastebuds at new food event**

The Curated Plate, a new four-day destination culinary festival is launching on the Sunshine Coast.

### **Coast's premier multi-arts festival**

The Horizon Festival connects artists, industries, communities and audiences through an award-winning celebration of arts and culture.

### **Community, Leadership, Give First Conference**

This half-day conference unites more than 150 entrepreneurs, technologists, innovators and business professionals. Speaking for the first time in Australia, Scott Brown (eight-time founder, VP Ventures & Outreach, CableLabs, Executive Director of UpRamp, author of (C)lean messaging) will openly discuss how the Sunshine Coast can learn from Boulder, Colorado, about attracting big business,

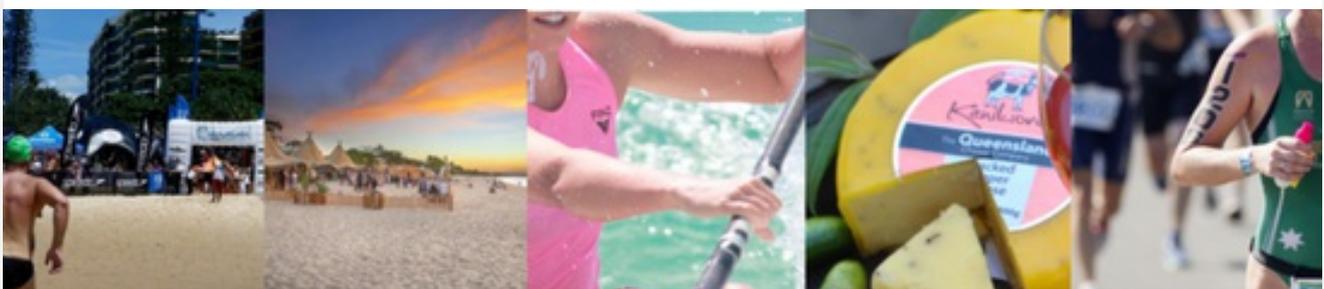
The Curated Plate is being held all over the Sunshine Coast until August 18.

For more information, and the full event program, visit <https://buff.ly/2LALhvQ>.

The Horizon Festival is held at Council New Chambers, 1 Omrah Ave, Caloundra from August 23 until September 1. For information and tickets, visit [horizon@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:horizon@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au) or <https://www.horizonfestival.com.au/>.

The conference is at Maroochy RSL on Tuesday, August 27 at 11.30am-4pm. Tickets are \$80.21-\$554.96.

Register via <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/community-leadership-givefirst-tickets-66670028851>.



## Have your say, good people

We welcome your feedback about our [monthly newsletter](#).

If you have regional news stories or economic development events relevant to the Sunshine Coast community, contact us via [media@rdasunshinecoast.org.au](mailto:media@rdasunshinecoast.org.au).

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

## Contact us

RDASC, Tower 2,  
Level 1, The Hive Co-  
working & Office  
Space, Kon-Tiki  
Business Centre,  
55 Plaza Parade,  
Maroochydore QLD  
4558



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



**An Australian Government Initiative**

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