

**MEDIA RELEASE – 14 March, 2019**

## **Regional projects kick started with government funding**

Regional cities and towns across the north and north-west will share in more than \$10 million in Australian Government funding for key local projects, which is set to create more jobs and drive economic growth.

Funding from the Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) will go towards building much needed infrastructure, such as a new health accommodation facility in Townsville for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from remote areas, a community hub in Cloncurry and an upgrade to water supply infrastructure in Normanton.

Community projects will also get kicked started through the program, including; developing a tourism strategy for the Charters Towers region and an Economic Development Strategy for the Burdekin.

RDA Acting Chair David Donohue said BBRF Round 3 had provided funding for 17 projects across the Regional Development Townsville and North West Queensland region.

“A lot of projects would not be able to get off the ground without the support of Australian Government programs,” Mr Donohue said.

“These projects also align with RDA’s vision to achieve a prosperous, sustainable, cohesive and liveable region.”

RDA Chief Executive Officer Glenys Schuntner said RDA had played a lead role in promoting and supporting the BBRF program.

“RDA held free workshops to provide potential applicants with advice on developing strong applications, as well as providing one-on-one advice and letters of support,” Ms Schuntner said.

Projects in the RDA region successful in the Community Investment Stream:

- **Charters Towers Regional Council:** \$75,000 to develop a tourism strategy 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
- **Palm Island Aboriginal Council:** \$45,000 for the Palm Island Aquaculture Industry Development Strategy
- **Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone Inc:** \$20,000 to deliver the Building Local Leadership Program
- **People First Australia Limited:** \$19,500 to develop Soldiers Songs & Voices helping heal service men and women from trauma
- **Cloncurry Shire Council:** \$20,000 to prepare an Indigenous cultural Tourism Strategic Plan
- **Carpentaria Shire Council:** \$100,000 to deliver the Karumba Barra & Blues Festival in Normanton.



Projects in the RDA region successful in the Infrastructure Projects Stream:

- **Yumba-Meta Housing Association Limited:** \$2,890,879 for the construction of Supported Transitional Health Accommodation in Townsville for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from remote communities
- **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
- **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
- **Townsville Turf Club:** \$182,500 to improve and refurbish the female jockey facilities
- **Mount Isa City Council:** \$442,394 towards installation of flood light at Captain Cook and Sunset Oval
- **Carpentaria Shire Council:** \$712,000 to upgrade the water supply infrastructure in Normanton.
- **Cloncurry Shire Council:** \$993,618 to develop a community hub in Florence Clark Park in Cloncurry

More information about the Building Better Regions Fund is available at: [www.business.gov.au/bbrf](http://www.business.gov.au/bbrf).

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