



REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA – QUEENSLAND COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DEPUTY CHAIRS

MACKAY/WHITSUNDAY

Chairperson: *Vacant*

Deputy Chairperson: **Joy Deguara**

Joy is Managing Director of a tyre and mechanical business and Business Manager of the family's earthmoving business. She is currently the President of AgForce - Central Queensland Region; Member of Mining and Vegetation Management Taskforces – AgForce; Board Member of Beef Australia and an Advisory Committee Member for the Australian Government's Environment Stewardship Program. As a former shire councillor, Joy has a good understanding of local government and social issues.

Joy has extensive experience in the environmental sphere, having served on the Board of Fitzroy Basin Association for 5 years, chaired the Three Rivers Natural Resource Management subgroup and developed the Natural Resource Management Plan for the Isaac/Conner Rivers.

TOWNSVILLE AND NORTH WEST

Chairperson: **Ronald McCullough AM**

Ron has worked with Commonwealth and State Government departments to develop projects and initiatives for the advancement of the Nth West Qld region for the past 25 years, with a particular focus on economic development, and community and infrastructure development. Ron served as Mayor of Mount Isa City Council from 1990 to 2008 and is currently the Director of Mount Isa Water and the North and West Queensland Primary Health Care, as well as a member of the Australian Institute of Company of Directors.

Deputy Chairperson: **Lynette McLaughlin**

Lyn has been the Mayor of Burdekin Shire since 2004. She is also President/Chairperson of numerous organisations, groups and committees at local, regional and North Queensland levels. For example, Nth Qld Local Government Association, Burdekin Shire Local Disaster Management Group, Nth Qld Development Alliance, and Burdekin Cultural Complex Board, and many others.

Lyn is also current member of the Burdekin Region Advisory Group, Nth Qld Economic Development Conference Committee, Ayr Chamber of Commerce, and the Council's Development Advisory Team and many other organisations. Lyn is a past member of the Ministerial Regional Communities Forum.

FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND AND TORRES STRAIT

Chairperson: Andrew Griffiths

Andrew is an author of business related books on topics such as marketing, advertising, customer satisfaction, business practices and work/life balance. He is also a specialist corporate communication consultant and CEO of the Oceanic Marketing Group, a collective alliance of marketing professionals who collaborate on large projects throughout Australia.

Andrew is an Ambassador for ACT for Kids, and former board member for Centre of Contemporary Arts in Cairns. In addition, Andrew facilitated the establishment of the Far North Queensland Mentor for Growth Panel, and provides advice and support in various formats to Advance Cairns and other regional development organisations.

Deputy Chairperson: Elizah Wasaga

Elizah is the past Chair of the Torres/NPA ACC. He is a member of the Kaurareg Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, and is a volunteer for the Horn Island Rural Fire Service.

Elizah worked as a Regional Coordinator on a two-year longitudinal study, conducted by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) in Torres Strait. The research focused on obtaining information on the roles of the extended family, traditional culture and language, education, nutrition, services, social issues and general island life, and how they impacted on the life experiences of Torres Strait families.

WIDE BAY BURNETT

Chairperson: Grant Maclean

Grant has wide experience in industry and commerce, as well as working with the Australian, State and Local Governments. He retired in 2008 as Chief Executive of Bundaberg Sugar Ltd after serving for 40 years. He is a past Director for Bundaberg Sugar, Australian Sugar Milling Council Pty Ltd and the Bundaberg Port Authority.

Grant has also held positions of Chair/President of a number of organisations, including, but not limited to, Australian Society of Sugar Cane Technologists, Southern Sugar Manufacturers Association and the Bundaberg and District irrigation Committee. In 2002, Grant was awarded the Centenary Medal by the Governor General for distinguished service to the sugar industry.

Deputy Chairperson: Donna Neilson

Donna is currently a Councillor for the Gympie Regional Council and Chair of the Council's Corporate Governance and Finance Committee. She is also member of the Coastal Protection Advisory Council, the Queensland Heritage Council and is a member of the Regional Women's Advisory Council.

Donna was the Deputy Chair for the Wide Bay Burnett ACC, and past Chair of Cooloola's Shire Growth and Economic Development Committee and member of the Local Government Association Queensland Executive.

FITZROY AND CENTRAL WEST

Chairperson: William Byrne

Bill Byrne served for nearly twenty years as an officer in the Army and then became the Regional Manager for the Defence Department within Central Queensland. He is Chair of Shoalwater Environmental Advisory Committee. Bill was a board member with the Central Queensland Community Legal Central for 4 years, and later spent time on the board of the Rockhampton Business and Tourist Information.

Deputy Chairperson: Peter O'Sullivan

Peter is Chair of the industry reference group for the Gladstone Clean and Healthy Air Project and currently employed as Manager on the Wiggins Island Coal Terminal Project. He has over 20 years' experience working with local indigenous groups, disabled and disadvantaged groups.

SUNSHINE COAST**Chairperson: Debbie Blumel**

Debbie was elected to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council in 2008. Debbie is a member of the statutory Service Delivery Committee, and represents Council on the South East Queensland Council of Mayors' Infrastructure Committee and the Council of Mayors Carbon Sink Taskforce. Debbie also represented the Sunshine Coast Regional Council on the Sunshine Coast Area Consultative Committee.

Ms Blumel worked as a social worker before becoming a health professional in a range of community health specialist fields. Debbie has initiated a number of significant community development projects and service level enhancements for the Sunshine Coast.

Deputy Chairperson: Malcolm (Mick) Graham

Mick is a life member of the Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union and Keep Australia Beautiful (Vic). He is currently President of Golden Beach Progress Association and a past member of the Ministerial Regional Community Forum for the Sunshine Coast. Mick is Chairperson of the Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Group and the Suncoast Transport and Care Association, and is a Deputy Chair of Caloundra Community Centre and HACC Action Group. Mick has been awarded the Commonwealth Government Recognition for Senior Australians Significant Contribution to the Community of Fisher and the Sunshine Coast.

MORETON BAY**Chairperson: Neil Hoddinett**

Neil, an Electrical Engineer, spent most of his working life in the Information Technology Industry. Working for international companies his initial experience was gained in Sales, Sales Management, Marketing and General Management roles addressing a range of industry sectors. This was followed by a number of years with leading management consultancy firms before he set up his own Sydney-based consultancy. His consulting activities encompassed Information Technology and General Management projects for Local, State and Federal Government bodies, both in Australia, and overseas. Neil has had a long term association with community activities contributing with memberships in Service Clubs and, most recently, as President of the Seniors Of Caboolture Computer Club Inc. He is a past member of the Sunshine Coast Ministerial Regional Community Forum.

Deputy Chairperson: Greg Chippendale

Greg is currently the Deputy Mayor of Moreton Bay Regional Council and Councillor representing Caboolture, Bellmere and parts of Morayfield and Moodlu, following a 20 year career in the Royal Australian Air Force. Current memberships include, but are not limited to, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company of Directors; Vice President Urban Local Government Association; Executive Member Council of Mayors' Infrastructure Committee; Board Member Caboolture Business Enterprise Centre; Board Member Caboolture PCYC and many other sporting and community organisations.

Before entering Council, Greg spent several years running his own business, becoming acutely aware of the many issues affecting people in the community.

LOGAN AND REDLANDS

Chairperson: Max Standage

Currently Provost¹ at the Gold Coast and Logan Campuses of Griffith University, Professor Standage is also the Director of the Gold Coast Innovation Centre, and past Director of Queensland Parallel Supercomputing Facility, Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) Water Quality, CRC for Enterprise Distributed Technologies and the Logan Economic Development Board.

Max has served on the Chemical/Physical Panel of the Australian Research Council and Chaired the Instrumentation and Scientific Instruments Priority Panel. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Physics and has been the International Chair of the Executive Committee of the International Conferences on the Physics of Electronic and Atomic Collisions.

Deputy Chairperson: Gail Ker

Gail is the CEO of ACCES Services Inc and has had a career in community support programs, with expertise in regional development and social inclusion. Memberships and volunteer roles have included President and Secretary of the National Council of Migrant Resource Service Agencies, Vice Chair of the Settlement Council of Australia, the Australian Multicultural Advisory Council, Logan Chamber of Commerce, Ethnic Community Council of Queensland, Multicultural Health Reference Group (Logan), and many other organisations.

IPSWICH AND WEST MORETON

Chairperson: David Hamill

David is the former Queensland Treasurer, Transport and Education Minister, MP for Ipswich, and a Company Director. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Transport.

David is also the Chairman of the University of Queensland Boilerhouse Community Engagement Centre, the Workshops Rail Museum Advisory Committee (Queensland Museum). For his achievements, David has been awarded Member of the General Division of the Order of Australia, Adjunct Professor - University of Queensland, the Centenary Medal in 2003 and was a Queensland Rhodes Scholar in 1979.

Deputy Chairperson: Katherine Bensted

Kathy has served on the Boonah Shire Council since 2004, and was re-elected to the newly amalgamated Scenic Rim Regional Council in 2008. Kathy is actively involved with a number of regional organisations and community committees, including, but not limited to; Scenic Rim Regional Council's Portfolio representative – Corporate Strategy and Sustainability; Audit Advisory Committee Member, Council of Mayor's Environment and Sustainability Committee Member, Australian Local Government Women's Association Queensland Branch, and a member of the Boonah and District Cultural Foundation.

BRISBANE CITY

Chairperson: John Shepley

¹

Senior Academic Administrator

John is a Barrister for the High Court of Australia, and previously a Barrister for the Supreme Court of Queensland and New South Wales. He also lectured at the School of Management Faculty of Business at the Queensland University of Technology for five years. John has also been a Chairperson for eight Not for Profit Organisations, Director of Jobs Australia (QLD and NT), and Community Representative for the Community Jobs Program (Brisbane South).

Deputy Chairperson: Linda Carroli

Linda is a communications, cultural and community consultant who has worked predominately in the cultural and social services sector. Linda was Chairperson for the board of the National Art, Science and Technology Organisation for three years and the Australian Network for Art and Technology for four years. She was a member of the Ministerial Regional Community Forum for the Greater Brisbane Region.

Linda has an extensive publishing record as an award winning writer. She publishes a range of media and contexts nationally and internationally including a regular feature for 'Arts hub' which focuses on urban innovation and creativity.

DARLING DOWNS AND SOUTH WEST

Chairperson: Wayne (Bill) Cahill

Bill is a Councillor on the Toowoomba Regional Council and previously served as a Councillor on the Crows Nest Shire Council. Bill was the cofounder of Highfields Better Business. Bill was previously involved in the Ministerial Regional Community Forum, Crows Nest Tourism and Progress Association and various other community groups.

Deputy Chairperson: Jo Sheppard

Jo has operated her own business as a Rural Consultant for the last nine years, specialising in the areas of economic development, small business development, business planning and budgeting and specialist training delivery for rural and remote locations in South West Queensland.

Jo is currently the Mayor of the Paroo Shire Council a position she was appointed to in March 2008. Prior to this role, she was councillor in this shire for eight years and has been actively involved in a wide range of challenges which have faced the South West region. Her sound understanding of Local Government, communities and delivering solutions from the ground up have all contributed to her success.

GOLD COAST

Acting Chairperson: Colette McCool

Colette has twenty years of public sector management experience at senior executive level. She is currently the Director of Community Services for the Gold Coast City Council a role she has successfully carried out for ten years. Her responsibilities include commercial services, social development, culture and libraries and health to name a few. Colette is currently Director of Queensland Events Corporation, Gold Coast and a Representative for the Gold Coast Community Safety Executive Forum. In 2007 Colette was the winner of the Telstra Business Women of the year (QLD) in the Government and Community category.