



# TONDOON BOTANIC GARDENS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-25  
GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL

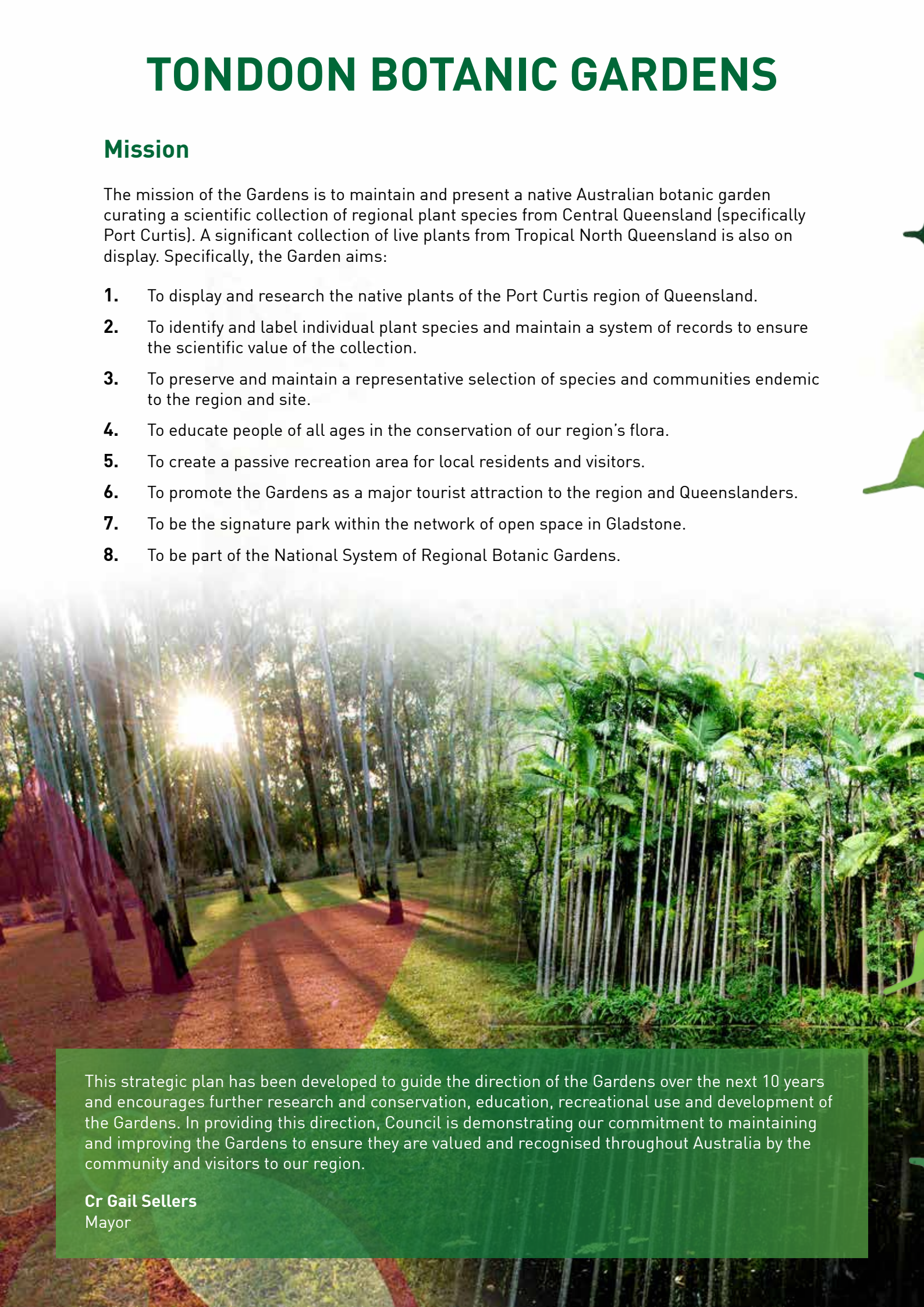
REGIONAL QUEENSLAND'S MOST VALUED AND RECOGNISED BOTANIC GARDENS

# TONDOON BOTANIC GARDENS

## Mission

The mission of the Gardens is to maintain and present a native Australian botanic garden curating a scientific collection of regional plant species from Central Queensland (specifically Port Curtis). A significant collection of live plants from Tropical North Queensland is also on display. Specifically, the Garden aims:

1. To display and research the native plants of the Port Curtis region of Queensland.
2. To identify and label individual plant species and maintain a system of records to ensure the scientific value of the collection.
3. To preserve and maintain a representative selection of species and communities endemic to the region and site.
4. To educate people of all ages in the conservation of our region's flora.
5. To create a passive recreation area for local residents and visitors.
6. To promote the Gardens as a major tourist attraction to the region and Queenslanders.
7. To be the signature park within the network of open space in Gladstone.
8. To be part of the National System of Regional Botanic Gardens.



This strategic plan has been developed to guide the direction of the Gardens over the next 10 years and encourages further research and conservation, education, recreational use and development of the Gardens. In providing this direction, Council is demonstrating our commitment to maintaining and improving the Gardens to ensure they are valued and recognised throughout Australia by the community and visitors to our region.

**Cr Gail Sellers**  
Mayor



**Stakeholder Focus**

**Strategic Goal**

**Measure/Target**

**1 Research & Conservation**

Lead the identification, documentation and display of regional plant species

1.1	Collect, identify, press and store regional plant species	Number of field trips per annum (4-6) Herbarium volunteer hours per annum Best practice protected storage
1.2	Propagate and grow regional plants including those under threat of extinction	Number of regional species growing in Gardens Infrastructure performance meet defined standards Number of threatened species growing in Gardens
1.3	Manage the Gardens to showcase living regional plants	Visitor satisfaction (90%) Infrastructure performance meet defined standards
1.4	Maintain best practice herbarium and live plant records	Accurate herbarium records Accurate live plant records
1.5	Provide scientific research opportunities	Number of scientific studies per annum

**2 Education**

Inspire plant, habitat, ecosystem and conservation learning

2.1	Provide access to Garden's herbarium and live plant records	Availability and breadth of information
2.2	Provide learning opportunities to the community	Annual program of learning activities Number of active participants per annum Satisfaction level (90%) Visitor centre volunteer hours per annum
2.3	Encourage school visitation	School visits per annum per school in the GRC LGA
2.4	Provide a plant identification and planting advice service	Services supplied per annum

**3 Recreation & Culture**

Sustain a natural place for enjoyment by residents and visitors

3.1	Use of the Gardens for recreational uses	Active recreational visitors
3.2	Use of the Gardens for art & cultural events	Arts & cultural events
3.3	Use of the Gardens as an event venue	Other events

**4 Promotion**

Promote the Gardens to residents and visitors

4.1	National and international recognition as an important botanic garden	Membership of BGANZ Registration with Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, London
4.2	Regular promotion and communication to residents	Communications per annum (4-6)
4.3	Promotion of the Gardens as a major tourist attraction	Visitors as % of total visitors to Gladstone

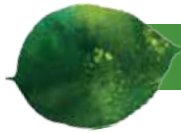
**5 Business Development**

Realise opportunities for further development

5.1	Implement Gardens' master plan	Elements of master plan implemented Master plan updated
5.2	Explore not-for-profit and commercial opportunities	Number of opportunities assessed Commercial sales as % of expenditure
5.3	Encourage community sponsorship of Garden elements	Sponsorship as % of expenditure
5.4	Pursue relevant external funding programs	External funds acquired

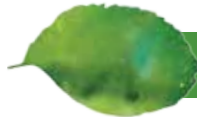
## Short Term Projects

The following are projects that will be implemented under the strategic themes.



### Research & Conservation

- Program of annual field trips
- Herbarium volunteer program
- Survey of species in garden beds
- Integrate and upgrade the herbarium, live plant and Council Conservation Group databases
- Link garden bed survey data with live plant records
- Demonstration gardens
- Gardens' Management Plan
- Gardens' Asset Management Plan
- Research prospectus



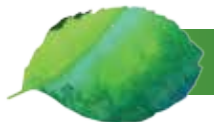
### Education

- Develop Gardens' website linked to herbarium and live plant records
- Demonstration gardens
- Visitor centre volunteer program
- Program of learning activities and events
- School educational program and resources
- Promote lectures and workshops for the purpose of increasing knowledge of local vegetation, plant identification (including native and weed identification), weed control, propagation, growing and landscape use of regional plants
- Identify and invite eminent persons to visit and give lectures on topics such as organic horticulture & permaculture, urban agriculture and sustainable living



### Recreation & Culture

- Recreational guide (existing & potential)
- Arts & cultural guide (existing & potential)
- Events guide



### Promotion

- Register with Kew Gardens
- Resident promotional/communication plan
- Visitor promotional program (in collaboration with Gladstone Area Promotion & Development Limited)



### Business Development

- Demonstration gardens
- Opportunity assessment criteria
- Assess Creative Recycling Centre proposal
- Gardens sponsorship prospectus

## Implementation

The implementation of the *Tondoon Botanic Gardens' Strategy 2016-25* will occur through rolling three-year action plans. Council will report progress towards strategic goals regularly to demonstrate collective stakeholder commitment towards achieving the Garden's vision.

The Strategy should be subject to a minor review and adjustment every 2-3 years and a major review every 5 years to ensure it remains relevant to changing circumstances.

Note: The full Strategy is available from Gladstone Regional Council.

