

## MEDIA RELEASE

24 December 2019

### **New round of Community Investment Program funding opening soon**

Gladstone Regional Council will open a range of funding streams from its Community Investment Program in the new year.

Funding assistance in the form of donations, sponsorship and/or grants is available under the Connected Communities Fund, Regional Enhancement Fund and Community Celebration Fund.

Applications can be made from 1 January 2020, with this round closing on 29 February 2020.

The Connected Communities Fund is offering a Performing Arts grant designed to provide funding assistance to community organisations that coordinate events which enhance and showcase the local performing arts sector.

Performing Arts objectives include ensuring that activities are to the benefit of the local community, encouraging community learning and participation and to generate an increase in visitor numbers to the region. This grant is open for projects or events held between June to November 2020.

The Regional Enhancement Fund will offer three grant opportunities – Environmental Care, Sport & Active Recreation – Community Projects and Jumpstart City Heart.

The Regional Enhancement Fund's primary focus is to provide support for the continued growth of the Gladstone Region, funding the reinvigoration and activation of our region and to protect and preserve our natural assets.

There will also be three grants open under the Community Celebration Fund.

Round 2 funding for Ignite, Impact and Destination events will open on 1 January 2020, for Ignite and Impact events to be held between August and November 2020.

Applications to be made under Round 2 of the Destination Event funding must be for events to be held between August 2020 to January 2021.

An Ignite Event is one that contributes to community pride, social outcomes, the regional economy and can attract up to 2500 participants.

An Impact Event is one that can demonstrate tourism and regional economy benefits and can attract between 2500 to 5000 participants, with 10 per cent out-of-region visitors.

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MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications and Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or [media@gladstone.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@gladstone.qld.gov.au)

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Destination Event funding support events that are well established, well designed and clearly demonstrate return on investment building community pride, return visitation, regional profile, economic stimulus and that attract over 5000 participants, with 15 per cent out-of-region visitors.

Gladstone Region Acting Mayor Chris Trevor encouraged community groups and organisations to make use of the next funding rounds.

“Council introduced this funding program in July 2019 and we’ve already seen a handful of organisations, community groups and not-for-profits host successful events as a result of this funding boost,” Councillor Trevor said.

“Benaraby Progress Association, BITS Junior Golf Club and Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service Ltd received funding through Council’s Community Celebration Fund as they met the criteria for Ignite Events.

“Those groups were able to deliver successful events with this funding assistance and Council would love to see more great event suggestions from the community in 2020.

“Events like these help in promoting community pride, they have a positive impact on the local economy and actively help in promoting the Gladstone Region.”

Visit [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/community-investment](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/community-investment) for more information and guidelines on the different funding streams available under Council’s Community Investment Program.

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