

Media Release

31 July 2023

Council proudly launches its second 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan

Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) has taken another proud stride forward on its reconciliation journey with the launch of its second 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Council's Innovate RAP (2023-2025) outlines the achievable and measurable actions GRC will take over the next two years to support lasting and meaningful relationships, encourage respect and promote opportunities for First Nations people in our region.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the two-year plan represents further progress in Council's commitment to reconciliation.

"It's fantastic to see the progress we have made since we launched our first Reflect RAP in 2018, and this was strengthened by the initial Innovate RAP launched in 2021" Councillor Burnett said.

"The commitments within Council's third RAP are aspirational and innovative, while also being achievable and measurable.

"Our Reconciliation Action Plan is not just another paper document; it is a foundation on which to achieve lasting and successful reconciliation in the Gladstone Region."

RAP Reference Group Co-Chair, Cr Natalia Muszkat said reconciliation remains a priority for GRC, as evidenced by progression to the second Innovate RAP.

"Our second Innovate RAP further strengthens the foundations and relationships required to ensure success in our region's reconciliation journey," Councillor Muszkat said.

"We have a long list of achievements from our first Innovate RAP and it is because of this success I am confident we can achieve the commitments outlined in the second Innovate RAP."

RAP Reference Group Co-Chair Annette Rutherford said she was very thankful to the people who have initiated and contributed to Council's Reconciliation Action Plan.

"The Rap Reference Group has worked hard with Gladstone Regional Council's RAP Champions to ensure the five dimensions of reconciliation – Race Relations, Equality and Equity, Institutional Integrity, Unity, and Historical Acceptance – are reflected in the everyday actions and words of Council," Ms Rutherford said.

"I believe Council has made big steps towards reconciliation but there is still progress to be made, and I am positive that both Council and the RAP Reference Group will support and participate in actions for an Australia that values and understands Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people now and in the future."

MORE

Visit www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/reconciliation-action-plan to learn more about Council's Reconciliation Action Plan achievements and to read the second Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (2023 – 2025).

The Gladstone Region is home to the Bailai, the Gurang, the Gooreng Gooreng and the Taribelang Bunda people.

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