

Media Release

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Winners of 'Turtle Tank' marine tourism funding initiative announced

Six innovative ideas have successfully swum through the latest round of the Turtle Tank tourism funding initiative.

The Turtle Tank is a tourism funding initiative sponsored by Gladstone Regional Council and administered by Gladstone Area Promotion and Development Ltd (GAPDL), created to boost the recovery of the Gladstone Region's tourism industry post Covid-19.

Turtle Tank recently completed its second round of funding with 11 applications received from various individuals, businesses and organisations across the region.

In June, shortlisted applicants were invited to pitch their proposed tourism projects to a judging panel consisting of leaders and representatives from GAPDL and Council.

A total of \$50,000 in funding was split among six successful candidates as follows:

- **CGRI ARTmatters: \$10,000**
 - Proposed project: Hosting a marine debris sculpture competition to engage the community through environmental awareness and artistic expression
- **Salty Life 1770: \$10,000**
 - Proposed project: Providing unique, luxury pontoon boat hire experiences
- **Dive Spear and Sport @ 1770: \$10,000**
 - Proposed project: Creating an educational program and reef experiences to support sustainable spearfishing in the Great Barrier Reef
- **Agnes Conservation Community Inc: \$10,000**
 - Proposed project: Hosting cinematic quality nature and sustainability focused film experiences
- **Luis Angel: \$5,000**
 - Proposed project: Developing a video promoting the region through the lens of marine ecology and conservation
- **Gladstone News: \$5,000**
 - Proposed project: Developing travel features for the School, Easter and Christmas Holidays highlighting marine tourism-based providers in the region.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett thanked all applicants for attending the virtual information session and submitting written applications on their proposed initiatives.

"Congratulations to all successful recipients of funding," Councillor Burnett said.

"We have six fantastic tourism initiatives and I'm looking forward to seeing them come to life."

Visit www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/funding-sources for more information on the Turtle Tank program and www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/community-investment for more information about Council's Community Investment Program.

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