

# 2018 BIO International Convention

To provide Gladstone Regional Council's management sector  
with information in the area of Conferences and their  
Organisational benefit.



**Contents**

**Gladstone Regional Council Conferences Attended .....3**

- a) 2018 BIO International Convention .....3
  - 1.0 Conference Attended and the Synopsis .....3
  - 2.0 Key Learnings from each session attended or speaker session .....3
  - 3.0 One thing you will use as a result of your learnings .....4
  - 4.0 One thing that the organisation could use to improve its operations.....4
  - 5.0 Other comments.....5
  - 6.0 Conference attendance costs .....5

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## Gladstone Regional Council Conferences Attended

### a) 2018 BIO International Convention

#### 1.0 Conference Attended and the Synopsis

The BIO International Convention (BIO) 2018 held in Boston, United States during 4 - 7 June. The BIO International Convention (BIO) attracts 16,000+ biotechnology and pharma leaders who come together for one week of intensive networking to discover new opportunities and promising partnerships. Bringing together a wide spectrum of life science and application areas including drug discovery, biomanufacturing, genomics, biofuels, nanotechnology and cell therapy.

- 18,289 Attendees
- 46, 916 [BIO One-on-One Partnering](#) Meetings
- 1,800+ Exhibitors including 50 State and International Pavilions
- 10+ [Networking Receptions](#), Meetups, and more
- 180+ [Education Sessions](#)
- 1000+ Speakers
- 300+ [Company Presentations](#)

#### 2.0 Key Learnings from each session attended or speaker session

Life Sciences Queensland CEO Mario Pennisi and I visited the City of Sarnia in Canada as part of the Bio 2018 Convention delegation to see first-hand how the city has developed a Bio economy over the past 18 years.

Sarnia Lord Mayor Mike Bradley and Bioindustrial Innovation Canada Advisor Murray McLaughlin organised an inspection of the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park which is a hub/incubator of Bio industries and start-ups working under the one roof to develop technology and progress to commercialisation.

link to the Sarnia Observer newspaper for more information:

<http://www.theobserver.ca/2018/05/31/queensland-officials-stop-in-sarnia-on-way-to-us-bio-conference>

The contact at the Western Sarnia-Lamberton Research Park is Executive Director Katherine J Albion.

The contact at the Bioindustrial Innovation Canada is Advisor Murray McLaughlin.

The success of Research Park comes from a partnership between Bio companies, Government and the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership, which operates under a similar mandate to the Gladstone Development Board and GAPDL combined. The Gladstone Region/GBD could partner with or share knowledge with the Sarnia community/Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership to promote the Gladstone Region as a bio energy hub for Queensland. The contact at the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership is Business Consultant Matthew Slotwinski.

link to the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SarniaLambtonEcPart/>

One of the companies operating in the Western Sarnia-Lamberton Research Park, Woodland Biofuels is using woodchip to produce bio ethanol and while different technology to the Northern Oil Refinery's bio diesel and bio hydrogen demonstration plants, in Gladstone the outcomes are similar.

While in Canada the Premier of Queensland Annastacia Palaszczuk announced \$750,000 will be allocated in the State Budget to support the investigation of producing and supplying hydrogen at a competitive price to alternative energy sources.

link to Media Statement delivered 31 May 2018 by The Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk:

<http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2018/5/31/palaszczuk-government-backs-hydrogen-research-for-renewable-fuel-source>

### 3.0 One thing you will use as a result of your learnings

There are opportunities for primary producers in the Gladstone Region to learn from agricultural innovations being developed through Texas A&M University and I have provided this information to a number of local agricultural leaders. There is also potential bio fuels and bio solid opportunities for the Gladstone Region through connections from AWEX.

The contact at Texas A&M University is Executive Director Brett Cornwell.

<https://www.tamu.edu/>

The contact at AWEX is Director Philippe Lachapelle.

<http://www.wallonia.be/en>

### 4.0 One thing that the organisation could use to improve its operations

While in Boston as part of the Queensland delegation to the Bio 2018 Convention with Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk and Minister for Kate Jones, I was able to provide a number of potential investors, bio companies and universities with detailed information on the Gladstone Region thanks to both the GDB and the Gladstone Engineering Alliance.

The documentation produced by both the GDB and the GEA showcases our local industries, the capabilities of our local engineering firms and our skilled workforce. We have the port, the power and the people and this sets us apart from the rest of the nation as the region of choice specifically industrial investment.

I was also able to provide this information as part of a presentation to the Open Worldwide Innovation Network members (OWIN) including Texas A&M University and AWEX Technological and Strategic Partnerships in Belgium.

The Gladstone information was also provided to Trade and Investment Queensland and also prominent in the Queensland section of the Australia pavilion at the Bio 2018 Convention.

This is the 20th year Queensland has sent a delegation to the Bio International Convention and at the Queensland reception the Premier and Minister Jones announced a further \$50M investment in advance Queensland to encourage investment in Queensland and the Gladstone Region is well placed to tap into this funding.

<http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2018/6/12/regions-and-industry-winners-in-50m-advance-queensland-budget-boost>

<https://advance.qld.gov.au/>

## 5.0 Other comments

Nil

## 6.0 Conference attendance costs

<b>Conference Registration Fee:</b>	Nil
<b>Travel Insurance</b>	\$234.92
<b>Travel Costs:</b>	\$6,755.41
<b>Accommodation:</b>	\$3,495.42
<b>Additional Costs:</b>	\$451.02 (meals, transaction fees)
<b>TOTAL COST:</b>	<b>\$ 10,936.77</b>