



A message from the Mayor

Cr Karen Williams

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Redlands ready to create new economy

Redland City is entering a new era of challenge – and opportunity. If we are to transform challenges into opportunities, we must create a new economy – one based on innovation.

And we need to shout loud and long that we are the perfect place to be involved in this new age of technology and innovation if we are to capture some of the existing knowledge industries and attract new ones to the Redlands.

Recent announcements such as the Federal Government's 30-Minute Cities - which aspires to have all necessary infrastructure to allow people to live, learn, work and play within 30 minutes of where they live - provide us the ideal opportunity.

I have written to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and invited him to consider us to be part of this vision through his government's National Innovation and Science Agenda. I will also be seeking meetings with Federal and State Ministers to make our strong case to be part of this exciting innovation push.

We have access to markets; we have access to the third-largest city in Australia; we have access to airports and ports; we have the lifestyle. And we have the talent right here in the Redlands – in existing business and in our young entrepreneurs of the future in our schools. We have to show that we have the connectivity and the space here and use our wonderful lifestyle and environment to build on our attractiveness.

Our biggest challenge is lack of internet connectivity. We have been poorly served for years in this regard and it is dramatically reducing our ability to expand our economy and attract new business. While there is light at the end of the tunnel with the rollout of NBN to parts of Redland Bay, we cannot rest on our laurels and must consider other options.

The building blocks for our new economy are already being laid:

- We will be driving local employment through Priority Development Areas and other major projects;
- Our Economic Development Advisory Board will find and explore new economic opportunities;

- We are developing a strategy to attract more major events to the City to benefit local businesses;
- We will continue our CBD/tourism incentives to attract more business and, ultimately, more visitors; and
- We will strive to continue to build our island communities.

The next step is to harness our excellence in innovation to create a national innovation hub. If ever a city was made for innovation, it is Redland City! Local entrepreneurs already have the runs on the board and I believe we have plenty more to offer; we just need to latch onto new policy and create the incubator to hatch those ideas.

Cr Karen Williams
Mayor of Redland City

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YOUTH: Jordan Duffy, a worthy winner of an Inspiring Redlander award, will bring creative energy to the Redland City Economic Development Advisory Board.

Young achiever appointed to economic board

Young Redlands entrepreneur Jordan Duffy is the latest appointment to the Redland City Economic Development Advisory Board.

Jordan, 21, is an extraordinarily high achiever who brings plenty of creative energy to the board. He has been recognised nationally for his innovative programs to manage technological change and is a champion of emerging technology. Jordan has been forging ahead in business since starting his first enterprise at just 14. He has collaborated with the G20, United Nations Development Program, International Labour Organisation and Australian Information Industry Association.

I was also pleased recently to announce the appointment of former publishing executive Jerry Harris, who will add to a deep and diverse pool of experience on which the board can draw. As former managing director of NewsCorp Australia's publishing business, Jerry adds extensive media skills, particularly in the creation of digital businesses.

Their appointments will assist the board greatly in driving our key industry and employment growth sectors. They join chair Samantha Kennedy, an Optus senior executive, Dr John O'Donnell, former CEO of the Mater Misericordiae Health Service Brisbane, and education specialist Catherine O'Sullivan, Pro Vice Chancellor Partnerships and Pathways at Bond University.

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Spotlight on future of sport

The future of sport in the Redlands is bright thanks to a \$1 million joint Redland City Council and Queensland Government lighting upgrade that was officially switched on at Judy Holt Park recently.

The lighting upgrade at the three rugby union fields was the first in a \$3 million project to upgrade lighting at sports fields across the Redlands.

The City is home to many passionate sporting clubs and families who love to watch their children enjoying our local sporting fields and Council is committed to ensuring these fields are of a high standard. As part of this commitment, in 2014 we identified fields that required lighting upgrades

to meet competition standard.

The Judy Holt Park upgrade is the first in a series that will be rolled out over the next three years across the City. It includes new LED technology and was a huge hit with players young and older.

This technology is only new to Australia and this project will see the Redlands become one of the first cities to use it on our local sporting fields, providing real benefits to local sports clubs.

LED lighting will enhance the sporting experience for both players and spectators, making it easier for locals to get involved in sport and addressing a shortfall in local sporting facilities.



BRIGHT FUTURE: Young rugby player Dylan says thanks while his teammates look on.

Candlelight vigil a time for reflection

Each May the nation stops to remember those lost to domestic and family violence and this year more than 100 Redlanders attended a very moving candle-lighting vigil to show that we won't tolerate this scourge on our community.

As well as being an opportunity to remember the women, children and men who have died due to domestic and family violence, this vigil was also a chance to reflect on the sobering statistics of violence in our own community.

All too often we hear stories of domestic and family violence that affect our friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues. But the true

depth of this issue lies in the stories we don't hear, with domestic and family violence existing under a cloak of darkness.

It is for this reason Council, as an organisation, became involved in supporting victims of domestic and family violence and campaigning for local support services.

Council is continuing to take a stand by supporting a new campaign from Working Against Violence Support Service (WAVSS) - "Non-violence is contagious ... give it to your friends".

I thank all Councillors for being part of this campaign to focus on and spread the word of non-violence, with Council also helping by displaying the campaign

messages on waste trucks and Council fleet vehicles. We are also distributing more than 70,000 bumper stickers to residents, schools and Council staff and encouraging everyone to put them on their vehicles.

We want people to see the non-violence message as they walk around the City, so we are plastering it where we can, including on waste trucks, Council cars and bus shelters.

I encourage you all to display the message of non-violence so as a community it becomes the norm rather than the expectation. Non-violence is contagious and I want the entire Redlands to be infected.

