



LATE ITEMS ORDINARY MEETING

AGENDA

16 APRIL 2019

Your attendance is required at an Ordinary meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 16 April 2019 commencing at 9.00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. P.", written in a cursive style.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
15 April 2019

Next Meeting Date: 07.05.19

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

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11 OFFICERS' REPORTS

11.8 TRADE MISSION INVITATION

File No:	8308
Attachments:	Nil
Authorising Officer:	Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Damon Morrison - Executive Coordinator to the Mayor

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval for Mayor Strelow and the General Manager of Advance Rockhampton to attend a Queensland Government Trade Mission to the United States of America in June 2019.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approves the travel and attendance by Mayor Strelow and the General Manager of Advance Rockhampton as part of the Queensland Government's Trade Mission to the United States of America in June 2019.

COMMENTARY

Council has been advised of an impending trade mission to the United States of America in June 2019 that is being organised by the Queensland Government to attend the 2019 BIO International Convention.

The BIO International Convention is hosted by the Biotechnology Innovation Organisation which represents more than 1,800 exhibiting companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centres and related organisations across the United States and internationally.

It is estimated that over 16,000 representatives from 74 countries are estimated to attend the 2019 event which is recognised as the world's largest biotechnology convention.

Council has been advised by the Queensland Government that Mayor Strelow and Council will be invited to join the official trade mission. Participation by Council will provide it with an opportunity to promote the Rockhampton Region as a prime investment destination particularly in the health, education, technology and agricultural sectors.

BACKGROUND

Queensland has led a high-level life science research and industry mission to this convention every year since 1999 showcasing the State's strengths in life sciences to global leaders in the field and to potential and new research and investment partners.

This is the second occasion that Rockhampton Regional Council will have been invited to participate at this convention as a member of the Queensland Government's official delegation, after participating in the 2018 BIO International Convention.

Meetings with a range of stakeholders are expected which will provide Council with an opportunity to showcase the Region and its capabilities via:

- access to biotech and pharma leaders via a partnering program with meetings arranged with biotech investors and senior business development executives;
- exposure to industry thought-leaders through more than 1,500 education sessions;
- networking opportunities with other attendees.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On 15 May 2018, Council resolved:

THAT Council approves Mayor Strelow's participation in the Premier of Queensland's Trade and Investment Mission to the United States of America in June 2018, and that a leave of absence be granted for 12 and 13 June 2018.

On 22 May 2018, Council resolved:

THAT approval be granted for the General Manager Advance Rockhampton to participate in the Premier of Queensland's Trade and Investment Mission to the United States of America in June 2018.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Expenditure associated with the trade mission will be funded within the existing Office of CEO and Advance Rockhampton operational budgets.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The proposed trade mission and the targeted industry sectors are aligned with Council's Corporate Plan and strategic direction as identified and summarised in its Economic Development Strategy and Economic Action Plan.

CONCLUSION

The Rockhampton Regional Council is committed to playing an active role in the economic development of the region with the long-term aim of stimulating economic growth and employment in the region through ongoing diversification of the region's economic base.

Council's economic development function will continue to be supported and enhanced by participation in this trade mission which will play an important role in supporting the export potential of local businesses within international markets and provide opportunities to build international connections, attract foreign investment, secure local distributors and importers and continue in the knowledge development of international markets.