

From the ceo's desk.....

August has been a busy month for MITEZ, with several opportunities to take the story of our corridor to regional, state and national audiences.

I was pleased to represent MITEZ at the **Developing Northern Australia Conference** in Alice Springs, where I spoke about the opportunities, challenges and future of the Townsville–Mount Isa Economic Corridor. It was an important opportunity to reinforce that our corridor is not simply a collection of individual projects or industries – it is an established economic system connecting some of Australia's most significant resources and productive regions with infrastructure, processing capability, the Port of Townsville and domestic and international markets. The MITEZ corridor is equally important to Northern Australia as it is to our own State.



On my return from the Northern Territory, I had the pleasure of presenting to the **US Consul-General Jeremy Cornforth** as part of his trip to the MITEZ region to investigate Queensland's critical minerals corridor and key investment ready projects. The Consul-General met with local governments and resource companies across the North West Minerals Province with site tours of operating mines and processing and refining facilities between Mount Isa and Townsville. It's a clear sign of confidence in Queensland's critical minerals sector, and part of the State Government's critical minerals strategy, to get projects off the ground to deliver more jobs and prosperity through a strong regional economy.



Closer to home, I provided the key note address at the **Resources Technology and Critical Minerals TRAILBLAZER** forum hosted by members **James Cook University**. The Trailblazer program drives engagement between universities and stakeholders from industry and education and provides funding support for industry-driven research projects related to critical minerals and resources technology; the discovery of critical minerals; and advances in mining technology, and the production of battery minerals. My address focused on the immense resources we have in the MITEZ corridor, their importance for emerging technologies and the value of partnerships and collaboration to achieve shared goals.



TRAILBLAZER
RESOURCES TECHNOLOGY & CRITICAL MINERALS

RTCM JCU RESEARCH SHOWCAS

PRESENTATIONS: Wednesday 12 August, James Cook University

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:15AM - 8:45AM	Registration	
8:45AM - 9:00AM	Welcome	Professor Stephen Rivie - Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, JCU
9:00AM - 9:15AM	Trailblazer Overview	Rohan McDougall, Director, Resources Technology and Critical Minerals Trailblazer
9:15AM - 9:30AM	Opening Address	Maria James - Chief Executive Officer, Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development
9:30AM - 9:45AM	Introduction to the Showcase	Associate Professor Ivan Samir - Head, Economic Geology Research Centre
9:45AM - 10:00AM	Vanadium mineralisation in black shales: global characteristics and the Julia	Truong Le, Helen McCoy-West, Ivan Samir, Matt Scipione
10:00AM - 10:15AM	Partners: JCU Geoscience, Engineering - Critical Minerals Group / JCU / Richmond Minerals Queensland	
10:15AM - 10:30AM	Electrokinetic in situ leaching of vanadium from low-permeability critical minerals	Ramin Mahaypour
10:30AM - 10:45AM	MORNING TEA	
10:45AM - 11:00AM	Sustainable Rare Earth Element extraction from Australian ores	Reshmi Ganes
11:00AM - 11:15AM	Partners: JCU Geoscience, Engineering, Physical Sciences / North / Ark Minerals	
11:15AM - 11:30AM	Characterising Rare Earth Element distribution from granitic parent rock in the Province	Sobhan Mohanty
11:30AM - 11:45AM	Partners: JCU Geoscience, Engineering, Physical Sciences / Bore Energy	
11:45AM - 12:00PM	Rare Earth Element mineralisation, geochemistry and evolution of the Jupiter	Arpa Sandhu-Nair, Alex McCoy-West
12:00PM - 12:15PM	Partners: JCU Geoscience, Engineering, Physical Sciences / China Limited	
12:15PM - 12:30PM	Engineering high-value nanocarbon materials from waste processes, proper	Mohan Joshi
12:30PM - 12:45PM	Partners: JCU Engineering / Strategic Metals Australia	
12:45PM - 1:00PM	Electrifying mining operations: opportunities for clean transport, charging	

I also had the opportunity to present at the **AusIMM North Queensland Resources Forum** in Townsville, putting the North West Minerals Province firmly in the spotlight. I spoke about our critical and strategic mineral potential, our established west-to-east supply chains and the opportunity for Townsville to play an even greater role in processing and value-adding. Importantly, unlocking that next wave of investment will require continued focus on the fundamentals – affordable and reliable energy, efficient rail and freight networks, and competitive pathways to market.



Later that same day, the conversation shifted from resources to agriculture at the **Next Gen Ag Forum**. Our region's cattle industry remains a major economic contributor, but the diversification occurring across the corridor is equally exciting. Cotton, grains, pulses and horticulture are creating new opportunities, alongside discussions around processing, a potential North West cotton gin and improved freight connections.



While these presentations covered very different sectors, the message was remarkably consistent. Resources, agriculture, tourism, infrastructure and our communities do not operate in isolation. They share roads, rail, energy, water, workforces and supply chains, and they all rely on efficient connections to market.

That diversity was also on display in Mount Isa during Rodeo Week, where our team was on the ground meeting with members and stakeholders and supporting the launch of Moondarra Cruises at Lake Moondarra. It is fantastic to see new tourism experiences emerging and adding another dimension to Mount Isa's visitor economy.

MITEZ's role is to keep making these connections – bringing the corridor together, ensuring our regional priorities are understood by decision-makers and advocating for the investment that enables existing industries to grow while creating the conditions for new opportunities.

There is a great deal happening across our corridor, and you will read about many of those developments throughout this edition.



MITEZ on the Ground for Mount Isa Rodeo Week

The MITEZ team was pleased to be back in **Mount Isa for Rodeo Week**, combining stakeholder engagement and regional business with the opportunity to support one of North West Queensland's most significant events.

Executive Officer Jennifer Vrana and **Membership Engagement Officer Emily Hall** were joined on the ground by **Grants and Research Officer Clare O'Brien**, providing a valuable opportunity for the team to spend time together in the corridor and connect directly with members, industry and regional stakeholders.

A highlight was the **North West Phosphate** BBQ networking event leading into the Rodeo. Thank you to the North West Phosphate team for the hospitality – it was a great opportunity to catch up with many familiar faces from across industry and the region ahead of a busy Rodeo weekend.



The team also loved attending the launch of **Moondarra Cruises**, an exciting new tourism experience for Mount Isa. Congratulations to Kylie and Brett on the launch and on bringing another visitor experience to the region. New tourism products like this help diversify the regional economy, encourage visitors to stay longer and provide another reason to explore Mount Isa and the broader Overlanders Way.



The team also spent the day volunteering for the Mount Isa Rodeo committee and selling tickets for the **Bell & Moir Toyota** car giveaway. Volunteers are the backbone of events across regional Queensland, and it was great for the MITEZ team to roll up our sleeves and contribute while we were in town.

The Mount Isa Rodeo continues to deliver benefits well beyond the arena – attracting visitors, supporting accommodation, hospitality and local businesses, and showcasing Mount Isa and the broader North West to audiences across Australia.

Congratulations and well done to the **Mount Isa Rodeo Committee** and everyone involved in delivering another fantastic event. The enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes was evident throughout the week, and the continued success of the Rodeo is a credit to the committee, volunteers, sponsors and wider Mount Isa community.

For MITEZ, being present across the corridor is an important part of what we do. Rodeo Week provided another valuable opportunity to connect with our members, strengthen relationships, support local tourism and celebrate the people and businesses contributing to the future of North West Queensland.



Mount Isa's Iconic Lookout Reopens Following Major Revitalisation

One of Mount Isa's most recognisable landmarks has been given a new lease on life, with the official unveiling of the revitalised **John Campbell Miles Memorial Lookout** during the Mount Isa Rodeo weekend in August.

Mount Isa City Council Mayor Peta MacRae and **Queensland Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie** recently unveiled the commemorative plaque marking the completion of the **\$4.24 million upgrade**, funded through the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland program.

The revitalisation includes new lighting, seating, shade structures and improved pathways, creating a safer, more comfortable and accessible space for both residents and visitors. The much-loved World Traveller sign has also been restored and updated, with Manila now joining the list of destinations.

Celebrating Mount Isa's rich history while enhancing a key tourism and community asset, the upgraded lookout is set to reopen to the public shortly, providing an even better place to experience the city's iconic views.

FUN FACTS

Named after Mount Isa's founder – The lookout honours **John Campbell Miles**, the prospector whose 1923 discovery of rich mineral deposits led to the establishment of Mount Isa.

A signpost to the world – The iconic World Traveller sign has become one of Mount Isa's most photographed landmarks, highlighting the city's connections to destinations across the globe through its people, industry and export markets.

One of the city's favourite viewpoints – The lookout offers sweeping views across Mount Isa, the surrounding landscape and the world-famous Mount Isa Mines operations, making it a must-visit stop for locals and visitors alike.

Best at sunset – The lookout is widely regarded as one of the best places in Mount Isa to watch the sun set over the Outback and to take in the city lights after dark.



Mount Isa Rodeo Queens: Local teacher **Maddy Wiedman** has been named queen of the Mount Isa Rodeo, while business owner **Kylie Vonhoff** has taken out the Zonta Charity Queen title. Ms Vonhoff raised a record-breaking **\$134,000** for the Mount Isa SES, while the four entrants combined raised more than \$260,000 for local charities. Ms Vonhoff says the achievement belongs to everyone who supported the campaign.



Photo: Gibson Digital Imaging

Miners' Memorial to Honour Mount Isa's Legacy

A new **\$4.7 million Miners' Memorial** will be built on **Frank Aston Hill** overlooking the Mount Isa Mines, providing a lasting tribute to the 150 miners who lost their lives while working in the region.

The project is being jointly funded by the **Queensland Government, Glencore** and **Mount Isa City Council**, with **Glencore** contributing **\$2 million**. Scheduled for completion in late 2027, the memorial will feature commemorative panels, shaded gathering areas, amphitheatre seating and dedicated spaces for reflection. Glencore Metals Australia General Manager Health, Safety, Environment and Community, **Maryann Wipaki**, said the memorial would create a permanent place to honour those who have been lost while reinforcing the industry's commitment to safety.

The memorial responds to long-standing calls from local families for a dedicated place of remembrance. Community leaders say it will recognise the vital contribution of mine workers and their families while preserving Mount Isa's rich mining heritage for future generations.

APA invests \$259 Million in Mount Isa Energy infrastructure



MITEZ member **APA Group** has announced a significant **\$259 million investment** in new energy infrastructure in Mount Isa, reaching a final investment decision on the **Sybella Creek Solar Farm** and **Battery Energy Storage System**.

The project will deliver a **72MW solar farm and 52MW/104MWh battery**, with construction expected to commence this year and completion targeted for mid-2028. The investment is underpinned by a long-term energy supply agreement with **Evolution Mining's Ernest Henry** operation through to mid-2046. APA's existing Diamantina gas-fired power station will provide firming capacity and additional energy supply, integrating solar and battery infrastructure with existing generation.

Sybella Creek represents APA's second major solar investment in the region, following completion of the 88MW Dugald River Solar Farm in 2024.

The investment is another important addition to the North West's energy landscape, strengthening energy security and supporting the continued development of the resources sector across the North West Minerals Province.

MITEZ welcomes the continued investment by our members in infrastructure that supports industry, regional development and the long-term economic strength of the Mount Isa to Townsville corridor.

Exciting New Employment and Training Project Coming to the MITEZ Corridor

MITEZ is pleased to announce we have been successful applicants under the **Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW)** initiative, with delivery anticipated to commence in February 2027, subject to final approvals. The project – Training to Employment MITEZ Workforce Pilot – will provide paid traineeship opportunities, accredited training and intensive mentoring support for participants across communities throughout the MITEZ corridor.

Delivered in partnership with **LGAs, Visitor Information Centres** and **TAFE** as the Registered Training Organisation, the six-month program will combine on-the-job learning with nationally recognised training. Participants will gain practical experience in customer service, administration, visitor information services and workplace readiness, while receiving tailored support to help overcome barriers to employment.

The project has been designed to create meaningful pathways into employment, further training and ongoing workforce participation, particularly for people living in regional and remote communities. Key features include paid employment, accredited training, mentoring, career development support and assistance to address challenges such as transport and accommodation.

We're Looking for a Project Supervisor

To support delivery of the program, MITEZ will soon be recruiting a Project Supervisor for the duration of the project.

This role will provide day-to-day supervision, mentoring and support to trainees across participating communities, while working closely with host organisations, councils and training providers. The successful candidate will play a critical role in helping participants build confidence, complete their traineeship and transition into employment outcomes.

We are particularly interested in hearing from people based within the MITEZ corridor, who understand the opportunities and challenges of regional and remote North West Queensland and are passionate about supporting local workforce development.

Further information on participant recruitment and the Project Supervisor position will be released in the coming months. If you are interested in learning more about the opportunity, please contact MITEZ.

Expected project commencement: February 2027 (subject to approvals).

Welcome New Member

MITEZ is pleased to welcome **Sunshine Metals** as a new member.

Sunshine Metals is a North Queensland-based exploration and development company focused on advancing gold, copper and base metals projects across Queensland. With its head office in Townsville, the company is committed to unlocking the potential of the state's resources sector through exploration, project development and strong regional partnerships.

The company's flagship asset is the **Ravenswood Consolidated Project**, located within the prolific Ravenswood-Charter Towers mining district, a region that has historically produced more than 20 million ounces of gold. The project includes the advanced **Liontown Deposit**, which hosts a total mineral resource of approximately 7.3 million tonnes grading 1.4g/t gold, 25g/t silver, 0.7% copper, 3.9% zinc and 1.4% lead. Sunshine Metals is advancing studies aimed at supporting future gold and silver production from the project.

The company has also recently acquired the Mt Moss Processing Facility and is in the process of amending the plant to treat its gold ore from Liontown.

Sunshine Metals is progressing several exploration projects across North Queensland, including the Sybil gold project, which has returned some high-grade intercepts in early drilling.

As a company operating and investing in regional Queensland, Sunshine Metals shares MITEZ's commitment to supporting economic growth, investment and employment opportunities across North and North West Queensland. We look forward to working with the Sunshine Metals team as they continue to advance their projects and contribute to the future prosperity of our region.

Find out more:

www.shnmetals.com.au

[Sunshine Metals Ltd: Posts | LinkedIn](#)

IMAGES: Ravenswood Consolidated Project site



MITEZ Member Update: Premise is now Amey Australia

MITEZ would like to congratulate member company **Premise** on an exciting new chapter, with the consultancy now operating as **Amey Australia** following its acquisition by global infrastructure and engineering group Amey.

For many across regional Queensland, Premise has built a strong reputation for delivering practical solutions across the built environment, water, transport, environmental and renewable energy sectors. While the name is changing, clients and stakeholders can expect the same local expertise, regional focus and trusted relationships that have made Premise a valued partner throughout North and North West Queensland.

The transition to Amey Australia brings significant new opportunities. Amey is a global infrastructure consultancy and operations partner with more than 12,000 employees and extensive experience delivering major infrastructure, engineering, asset management and decarbonisation projects. By combining Premise's deep understanding of Australian communities with Amey's international scale, technical capability and digital expertise, the business is now positioned to offer an even broader range of services and specialist knowledge to clients across the country.

Amey has highlighted Premise's established presence in regional Australia as a key reason for the acquisition, recognising the value of place-based solutions and trusted local relationships.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with the team and wish Amey Australia every success as they embark on this exciting new journey.

Find out more –

[Amey | Life's Better Connected](#)

[Amey: Overview](#) | [LinkedIn](#)



MITEZ at Queensland's Annual Regions Summit

MITEZ attended the **Queensland Futures Institute's Annual Regions Summit** in Brisbane on 19 August, joining government, industry and regional leaders for discussions about the future of regional Queensland.

The Summit explored the infrastructure, energy, housing, workforce and investment needed to support regional growth through to 2060. It provided an important opportunity for MITEZ to engage in the broader statewide conversation and ensure the priorities and opportunities of the Mount Isa to Townsville corridor remain front of mind.



AI delivering productivity gains at MMG's Dugald River

Innovation is delivering measurable productivity gains at **MMG's Dugald River** zinc mine near Cloncurry, demonstrating how advanced technology can strengthen the performance of established North West mining operations.

Dugald River recently marked one year since implementing an AI-Assisted Process Control (AIPC) system, developed in partnership with global engineering and design firm Hatch.

The technology uses operational data and artificial intelligence to model the mine's flotation process and make real-time adjustments as processing conditions change. Flotation is a critical stage of zinc production, separating valuable zinc minerals from waste material.

For an operation already achieving zinc recovery rates above 97 per cent, the system has delivered a further 0.5 per cent improvement in recovery. While incremental, at the scale of a major mining operation even small improvements in mineral recovery can deliver significant productivity and commercial benefits.

The investment has also generated a rapid return, with MMG analysis showing the project paid for itself in less than three months following commissioning.

For the North West Minerals Province, the initiative is a strong example of how investment in technology and innovation can improve productivity, maximise value from existing operations and strengthen the long-term competitiveness and resilience of the region's resources sector.

ARM Hub Accelerators Driving Innovation and Manufacturing Growth

Businesses across the MITEZ region looking to adopt advanced technologies and strengthen their competitive edge are encouraged to explore ARM Hub's Accelerator Programs. Designed to fast-track technology adoption and commercialisation, the programs support businesses working in advanced manufacturing, AI, robotics, defence, biotechnology, and other high-growth sectors.

ARM Hub's accelerators provide participants with access to technical expertise, mentoring, technology roadmaps, commercialisation support, and industry partnerships to help turn innovative ideas into scalable business opportunities. Current programs include initiatives supporting defence capability development, biomedical innovation, manufacturing scale-up, and female-led technology businesses.

With major opportunities emerging across North and North West Queensland through resources, energy, manufacturing, and defence supply chains, these programs offer a valuable pathway for regional businesses to build capability, improve productivity, and access new markets.

Find out more: <https://www.armhub.com.au/services/accelerators>



selectability

mental wellbeing and suicide prevention

MITEZ Celebrates 30 Years of Selectability

MITEZ was honoured to attend the recent 30-year celebration of MITEZ Member selectability, a remarkable milestone that recognised three decades of strengthening individuals, families and communities across North Queensland.

What began in 1995 as SOLAS in Townsville, a community-led mental health support service, has grown into one of the region's leading providers of mental health, wellbeing and community services. Over the past 30 years, selectability has expanded well beyond its Townsville origins, developing innovative programs, fostering strong partnerships and supporting thousands of individuals and families throughout North Queensland.

The celebration was both a reflection on the organisation's journey and a recognition of the people who have helped shape its success. A special tribute was paid to former CEO Rhonda Clark, whose dedication, vision and collaborative leadership played a pivotal role in transforming the organisation into what it is today. Her commitment to empowering people and building strong community connections has left a lasting legacy across the region.

Throughout the event, selectability's values were showcased through its three guiding pillars: Care, Connection and Community.

Care remains at the heart of the organisation, recognising the unique strengths, needs and aspirations of every person.

Connection enriches lives, strengthens relationships, builds community and creates opportunities for people to grow, participate and thrive.



Community reflects the belief that communities are stronger when everyone has the opportunity to belong. MITEZ extends its congratulations to the selectability team and thanks the organisation for allowing us to be part of this important milestone. We also acknowledge Chief Executive Officer Debra Burden, Chair Danielle Hornsby, and the many selectability team members and partners whose connections and collaboration continue to make a difference across the region.

Along the MITEZ corridor, selectability's important work can be seen in communities including Mount Isa, Richmond, Charters Towers and Townsville, providing vital mental health and wellbeing support to residents across North Queensland.

Congratulations to selectability on 30 years of making a difference.

[selectability | Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and NDIS service provider](#)



Photo credit: Selectability



Industry Breakfast Highlights Growth Opportunities for North Queensland

Industry and government representatives gathered at the Townsville Industry Breakfast hosted by the Department of State Development in August to discuss major projects, Brisbane 2032 opportunities, industry development and housing challenges.

Adam Baillie MP, Member for Townsville, opened the event by highlighting the importance of local knowledge and local voices in shaping the region's future.

Carmelo Dibella (CPB Contractors) outlined opportunities arising from major regional projects, including the Stuart Correctional Centre upgrade, which will deliver 400 additional beds while maintaining operations at the existing facility. [Home - CPB Contractors](#)

Dominique Lamb (Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee) provided an overview of the significant opportunities available to regional Queensland businesses through the Olympic and Paralympic Games. With 16 host cities involved, including 14 in Queensland, opportunities extend across supply chains, manufacturing, design, allied health, catering and other services. Businesses were encouraged to register their capabilities through the ICN Gateway and Local Buy, noting that partial Expressions of Interest are welcomed. [Gateway by ICN - BRISBANE2032GAMES - Home](#)

John Chandler (AusIndustry) discussed the Made in Australia framework and the importance of aligning industry capability with government policy. Using hydrogen projects as examples, he highlighted opportunities to strengthen local industry and encouraged businesses to stay informed through government updates. [AusIndustry | business.gov.au](#)

Scott Nolan (Private Energy Partners) spoke about opportunities linked to the Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct and the proposed **Northern Quartz Campus**, highlighting the potential for Townsville and North Queensland to add value to Queensland's critical minerals resources. [Private Energy Partners](#)



The event concluded with a housing panel featuring representatives from the **Department of State Development, Housing Industry Association, Townsville City Council** and **Maidment Group**. Panellists agreed that housing supply and demand remain out of balance and that addressing the issue will require coordinated action across government, industry and the community.

Key priorities identified included infrastructure delivery, unlocking land, addressing workforce and skills shortages, reducing red tape and closing funding gaps. A consistent message from the panel was that no single organisation can solve the housing challenge alone, and collaboration will be essential to support the region's continued growth.

A common theme throughout the breakfast was that North Queensland's future opportunities are significant, but success will depend on strong partnerships, industry capability and ensuring local businesses are ready to participate.

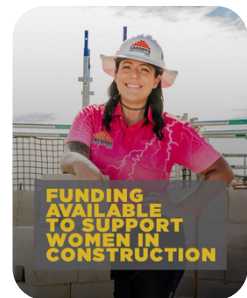
Funding Available to Support Women in Construction

Organisations across the MITEZ corridor are encouraged to explore a new funding opportunity aimed at strengthening Queensland's construction workforce.

Construction Skills Queensland (CSQ) has launched the Supporting Women in Construction Grants Program, committing \$4 million in 2026–27 to help attract, support and retain women in construction careers across the state.

Grants of **\$50,000** to **\$500,000** are available for projects that:

- Promote construction careers to women.
- Drive gender equity and inclusion in workplaces.
- Support career progression and professional development.
- Build industry networks, mentoring and engagement opportunities.



The program is open to industry associations, not-for-profit organisations and for-profit organisations with a Queensland presence and strong connections to the construction industry. Successful projects will be funded for up to 12 months, with the potential for funding to continue for a further two years.

For the North West, the initiative presents an opportunity to strengthen the region's future workforce as major mining, energy and infrastructure projects continue to drive demand for skilled workers. Collaborative projects involving industry, training providers and regional organisations are strongly encouraged.

Applications close 25 September 2026. For more information or to apply, visit the Construction Skills Queensland Supporting Women in Construction Grants Program.

MITEZ encourages members considering an application to get in touch. We are happy to discuss potential regional partnerships, connect organisations with suitable collaborators and provide letters of support where appropriate.

Queensland Backs Rocklands Expansion with \$15 Million Investment

The Queensland Government has announced a **\$15 million** investment through the **Queensland Investment Corporation's (QIC)** Critical Minerals Fund to support the expansion of **Austral Resources Australia's Rocklands** processing plant near Cloncurry.

The investment aligns with the State's recently released Delivering **Queensland's Critical Minerals Future 2026–2030 strategy** and is designed to de-risk major critical minerals projects, strengthen investor confidence and encourage further private sector investment across Queensland's resources industry.

The funding will enable Rocklands to increase its processing capacity from three million tonnes to approximately 4.5 million tonnes per annum, significantly enhancing one of North West Queensland's key copper processing facilities.

For the MITEZ corridor, the announcement represents another positive step in strengthening downstream processing capability within the North West Minerals Province. Expanding local processing capacity not only supports the continued development of existing operations but also improves the viability of future mining projects across the region.

The investment is expected to support regional employment, stimulate additional private investment and reinforce North West Queensland's position as a nationally significant critical minerals hub. It also reflects the growing focus on ensuring more value is captured within the region through processing and associated supply chain opportunities, rather than simply exporting raw materials.

MITEZ welcomes initiatives that build investment confidence, support value-adding industries and strengthen the long-term economic resilience of the corridor. Strategic investments in processing infrastructure are essential to unlocking the full potential of the North West Minerals Province and ensuring regional communities benefit from the next generation of critical minerals development.

Every Generation Has a Role in Building Strong Communities

A new report from the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR), *NextGen Blueprint: Every Generation Has a Role*, highlights the importance of intergenerational leadership in strengthening rural and regional communities. The report found that while many young people are eager to contribute, community organisations often lack clear pathways for meaningful participation and shared decision-making.

Drawing on conversations with young people, community leaders and volunteers across regional Australia, the report shows that communities are more resilient when generations work together, sharing responsibility, knowledge and leadership. Rather than a simple handover from one generation to the next, the report advocates for "co-stewardship" where experienced and emerging leaders help shape the future side by side.

The report also offers practical insights to help community groups embed youth voices, strengthen volunteer succession, and create sustainable leadership structures for the future. Read the full report on the **FRRR website** - [NextGen Blueprint: Every generation has role](#)





- Tourism and visitor experiences continue to grow across the Overlanders Way, with Richmond gaining international attention following a significant fossil discovery that further strengthens its reputation as a world-class palaeontology destination. In Mount Isa, new tourism business **Moondarra Cruises** has launched sunset cruises on Lake Moondarra, adding another unique experience for visitors to the region.

[MORE INFORMATION >>](#)

- Funding opportunities available through the **Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund** and free industry training through the Queensland Welcomes You program has the potential to see continued investment in tourism development. The recently upgraded **What's On Mount Isa** platform is helping promote events and strengthen regional collaboration.

[MORE INFORMATION >>](#)

- Beyond the western end of the Overlanders Way, **Gulf Savannah Development** continues to support tourism growth throughout the Gulf Country, with new visitor experiences, business support initiatives and ongoing advocacy for improvements along the Savannah Way, encouraging travellers to extend their Outback Queensland journey even further.

[MORE INFORMATION >>](#)

JCU Students Present Recommendations to Strengthen the Overlanders Way

MITEZ recently worked with students from **James Cook University's** BU3102 Multidisciplinary Project course, who presented the findings of their industry partnership project, '**Strengthening the Overlanders Way: A Signage and Rest Stop Analysis.**' Working in collaboration with MITEZ, the student team undertook a corridor-wide desktop assessment of tourism signage and rest stop infrastructure along the Overlanders Way, identifying opportunities to enhance visitor experiences, improve wayfinding, and encourage travellers to stop, stay and spend throughout the region.

The project delivered valuable recommendations, including the development of coordinated signage and rest stop improvement strategies across the seven MITEZ local government areas. The students highlighted opportunities to improve visitor information, route recognition, safety, and amenity standards, providing a practical framework that can inform future planning and investment decisions.

Industry partnerships such as this provide significant benefits for both students and regional organisations. By working on a real-world project, students gain hands-on experience in research, stakeholder engagement, project management, and strategic planning, while developing a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing regional Queensland. At the same time, MITEZ benefits from fresh perspectives, innovative thinking, and research that contributes to the long-term development of the region.

MITEZ is proud to support opportunities that connect education with industry and thanks the student team for their professionalism, enthusiasm and contribution. Collaboration between universities and regional organisations can help generate practical solutions that support the continued growth and resilience of the Overlanders Way and the broader MITEZ region. Thank you to students **Chukwuemeka Egbo, Haneul Lee, Lorraine Wagaia, Melissa Kratzmann** (project lead), and subject lecturer **Gerard Byrne** for the opportunity.

As part of the month's activities, the Queensland Government is bringing local manufacturers together to network, trade tips, have a drink and a bite to eat, and hear more about how the Queensland Government is supporting the sector.

Don't miss out on this event, [register now](#).

REGISTER HERE

Townsville Event Details

Date: Friday, 4 September 2026

Time: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Venue: **Tiny Mountain Brewery, 20 Palmer Street, South Townsville**

Cost: Free – Complimentary food and drinks– but spaces may be limited per business

Over drinks and nibbles, you'll also have the opportunity to connect with your local manufacturing peers, share ideas, and unlock potential new opportunities. The team will provide you with information about Queensland Government support programs tailored to assist local manufacturing businesses.

For additional information contact: Greg Palm, Manager Queensland Manufacturing Hub Townsville – greg.palm@nrmrdd.qld.gov.au – 0447 055 995.



Child Safety Standards: What MITEZ Members Need to Know

MITEZ recently met with **ChildSafe Australia** to better understand how Queensland's Child Safe Standards and Reportable Conduct Scheme may impact member organisations, particularly those employing apprentices, trainees, or hosting work experience students under 18 years of age.

While the standards formally apply to a range of sectors including local government, education, health, community services, and organisations working with children, there is a growing expectation that all employers of young people take reasonable steps to provide a safe environment.

For employers, this means ensuring appropriate supervision, clear behavioural expectations, staff awareness of child safety responsibilities, and processes for reporting concerns. Even where the standards do not strictly apply, organisations may need to demonstrate they have taken reasonable actions to protect young people in their care.

ChildSafe Australia highlighted a range of support options, including online training, policy templates, audits, implementation advice, and affordable DIY resources designed for smaller organisations.

If your organisation employs apprentices or trainees under 18, hosts work experience students, or regularly interacts with young people, now is a good time to review your child safety practices and become familiar with the Queensland Child Safe Standards.

For more information, visit ChildSafe Australia or contact the MITEZ team for more detailed information – meo@mitez.com.au [Child Safety Resources & Training](#) | [ChildSafe Australia](#)



Have Your Say on Jobs and Workforce Opportunities in North West Queensland

The **Mount Isa Regional Jobs Committee (RJC)** is inviting jobseekers, students, workers and community members to participate in the Jobseeker Participation & Recruitment Insights Survey, open from 3 August to 30 September 2026.

The survey aims to gather local insights on employment, training and recruitment experiences to help inform future workforce development initiatives across Mount Isa and the North West. Results will contribute to identifying opportunities to strengthen workforce participation and improve employment outcomes in the region.

The survey is:

- Anonymous and confidential
- Independently conducted by Ronan Analytics
- Quick to complete (8-10 minutes)
- Open until 30 September 2026

MITEZ encourages councils, businesses, training providers and community organisations to help share the survey through their networks, newsletters, social media channels and community contacts. Broad participation will help ensure local voices are represented in planning for the region's future workforce needs.

For more information, contact the Mount Isa Regional Jobs Committee at rjcinfo@mountisa.qld.gov.au or **07 4747 3312**. Helping build stronger workforce and employment outcomes for Mount Isa and North West Queensland.

New report highlights pathways to boost regional productivity

The Regional Productivity Solutions report from the Regional Australia Institute (RAI) highlights the critical role regional Australia plays in driving the nation's economic growth, contributing around 37% of Australia's national output through industries such as agriculture, mining, energy, manufacturing, logistics and tourism. The report finds that regional Australia delivers higher average labour productivity than metropolitan Australia, but that productivity outcomes vary significantly between regions.

The report calls for a stronger place-based approach to productivity, arguing that regional challenges such as workforce shortages, housing constraints, infrastructure gaps, limited access to capital and digital connectivity require solutions tailored to local conditions. Key recommendations include improved regional productivity measurement, greater investment in regional innovation ecosystems, workforce development, housing supply, digital infrastructure and locally led productivity initiatives.

For councils, businesses and regional stakeholders, the report provides valuable insights into the drivers of regional productivity and outlines practical policy directions to support sustainable economic growth and stronger regional communities.

Read the full report



Constructing HER Career – Women in Construction is back for 2026!

This is a free, interactive event designed to inspire and inform participants about the diverse career pathways available in construction. Attendees will hear from women working in the industry, participate in hands-on activities, connect with employers and industry professionals, and learn about training and employment opportunities.

We encourage providers to promote this opportunity to suitable participants and support interested women to register as soon as possible.

Important: Participants under 18 years of age must provide written parent/guardian consent, including consent for photography and media, at the time of registration.

Registration Update

To register, please complete the online registration form [here](#):

[🔗 Constructing HER Career- Women in Construction General Registration Form – Fill out form](#)

2026

Attention women, and girls in Years 10-12 – ready to explore your future? This event is for you!

Constructing HER Career Women in Construction

Join us for a hands-on, inspiring day exploring real career opportunities in construction. Connect with women working across the industry, hear their stories, ask your questions, and take part in interactive activities designed to show you what's possible – and how to get there.

Date: Tuesday 15th September

Time: 8:30am - 2:30pm

Venue: TAFE Trade Training Campus
763 Ingham Rd, Bohle

Proudly supported by:

NAWIC Paynters Workforce Australia tafe

Explore. Connect. Build Your Future.

Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Career Start)

A new pathway into Queensland's energy industry is opening in 2027, with **Ergon Energy** and **Energex**, in partnership with **TAFE Queensland**, launching the Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Career Start) pre-apprenticeship program. Designed to support careers in regional, rural and remote communities, the program provides practical training and industry-relevant skills for those interested in becoming distribution linespersons or electrical fitter mechanics. The initiative aims to build the future energy workforce while creating valuable employment opportunities across Queensland.

Read more here:

[Ergon Energy and Energex Pre-apprenticeship Program](#)

https://comms.dtet.qld.gov.au/ch/74852/1yvm9/2214936/IK_KzINaFrsw0G6_w2hAXWntWARfstJKTT3iFMeM-1.html

To receive news from the Department of Trade, Employment and Training and their NQ Employment & Training Bulletin, you can subscribe by emailing tpe@dtet.qld.gov.au



SAVE
-THE-
DATE



What's on along the MITEZ CORRIDOR

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

FUTURE FORCE AG INTENSIVE SCHOOL 2026

We're excited to launch a new program giving students real-world agricultural experience and industry-ready skills.

The Future Force AG Intensive School is a hands-on experience connecting students with industry, innovation, and career pathways in agriculture.

Students will build practical skills, confidence, and industry connections, while completing a recognised chemical certification.

The program highlights the wide range of opportunities in agriculture and helps students identify clear pathways into further study and careers.

ACROSS TWO ACTION PACKED DAYS, STUDENTS WILL:

- Complete a Chemical Certification Course
- Participate in on-farm and industry visits
- Focus on real-world skills and career pathways in agriculture
- Be guided into employment pathways in agriculture

ELIGIBILITY:

- Enrolled in a QLD High School
- Aged 15 years or older as of 1 October 2026
- Available to attend both days (from start of the Ag Intensive school)
- Committed to completing pre-work (approx. 7 hours) prior to attendance

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 10TH OF AUGUST 2026

WHY APPLY:

- ✓ FREE Opportunity
- ✓ Travel Subsidies Available
- ✓ On-Farm Excursions
- ✓ Industry Connections
- ✓ Pathway into the Ag Industry
- ✓ Regional location opportunity

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

- Application close 10th of August 2026
- EOI does not mean guaranteed placement
- Successful applicants will be contacted
- Schools can apply on a students behalf

CHARTERS TOWERS

9th - 10th of October
13th - 14th of October

ROCKHAMPTON

12th - 13th of October
15th - 16th of October

APPLY NOW

CHARTERS TOWERS

SAVE THE DATE !!

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8 OCTOBER	9 OCTOBER

Supporting students 15-18 years old to gain real-world skills, industry insight and accelerated learning for the future of agriculture.

WWW.FUTUREFORCE-AGQLD.COM

AI & Cyber Skills Every Small Business Needs

Join us in person on the **8th of September** for a **FREE** introductory AI and Cyber workshop. Learn how 2 local businesses are using AI and cyber practices to save time, improve efficiency, and reduce risk!

You will learn how to

- Speed up daily tasks using AI with simple prompts
- Check AI errors before customers spot them
- Protect your data and reputation
- Avoid common scams and cyber threats

Tuesday 8th of September | 12.30 pm - 3.00 pm
Rydges Southbank | Lunch Provided

Your Speakers

- Miranda Meers
Australian Impact Group
- Donovan O'Keefe
Townsville Catholic Education
- Luisa Grant
Industry Skills Data Advisor
- Mal Vearing
Industry Workforce Advisor

No tech background needed. Whether you're curious, cautious, or already using AI. You will leave with practical ideas you can put into action straight away.

Spots are limited! Bring your questions and build your AI and Cyber confidence and capability!

Register HERE

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FLINDERS SHIRE ARTS ADVISORY GROUP?

What is the Flinders Shire Arts Advisory Group?

A community-driven team that advises Council on arts and culture, champions creative opportunities, and supports the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) – helping arts thrive across the Flinders region.

NEXT MEETING

IT WILL BE HELD AT 39 GRAY STREET HUGHENDEN, FLINDERS SHIRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER | 5PM - 6PM

If you are passionate about arts and culture we would love to see you there. All welcome!

For more information -
Robin Strang - Community Development Officer
0474 212 536 or robin.strang@flinders.qld.gov.au

SHIRE OF FLINDERS

2026 Ernest Henry Art Competition

OPENING NIGHT & AWARDS

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2026 6:30PM

DR DAVID HARVEY-SUTTON GALLERY
Entry via Daintree Street through Precinct

[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DLVXM](https://www.trybooking.com/dlvxm)

For more information contact: Council at council@cloncurry.qld.gov.au or phone 07 4742 4100

Evolution

ARE YOU STUDYING ?

COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE MOUNT ISA

COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE MOUNT ISA IS A FREE, SAFE, SECURE STUDY FACILITY FOR ANYONE STUDYING WITH ANY HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN AUSTRALIA.

- Quiet place to study
- Free high speed internet
- Student access 8am to Midnight
- Free printing
- Dual screen computers
- Refreshments
- Local student community
- Face-to-face local support

REGISTER ONLINE

www.cucmountisa.edu.au

10 Miles Street
PH: 0472 669 919

Register now:

Meet the Regulator - Queensland Charity & Community Compliance Roadshow

Practical Compliance Information for Charities, Not-for-Profits & Community Organisations

Information Session details:

Volunteering North Queensland is pleased to invite charities, not-for-profit organisations, volunteer involving organisations and community groups to the Queensland Charity & Community Compliance Roadshow.

Developed in response to feedback gathered through Volunteering North Queensland's Stronger Together regional consultation tour, this free event will bring practical compliance information directly to the organisations and volunteers who need it.

Guest Speakers: Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), Australian Taxation Office (ATO), Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and more.

Cost: Free

When: Tuesday, 6th October 2026
10:30am - 12:30pm and 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Location: To be confirmed.

Register: www.vnq.org.au/training

Volunteering North Queensland

VOLUNTEERING NORTH QUEENSLAND

Volunteering North Queensland's Inspire & Ignite

Quarterly Networking and Feel-Good Story Sharing

Date: Thursday 22nd October,
Time: 7:00am - 9:00am
Location: Northreach Cafe - 38 Canterbury Road Kirwan
Guest Speaker: Andrew Hovenden from The Battle Initiative
Cost: Free for VNQ and Battle Initiative Members, and \$10 for non-members
Breakfast Included, RSVPs Essential via vnq.org.au

QR Code

THE BATTLE INITIATIVE

Volunteering

THURSDAY

Townsville

Bringing degrees closer to regional, rural and remote Australia.

10 Miles Street
PH: 0472 669 919

Cuppa with the Councillors 8:30 am

18 February
25 March
29 April
27 May
24 June
22 July
26 August
23 September
25 November
16 December

MOUNT ISA CITY COUNCIL

LOOKING FOR WORK IN MOUNT ISA REGION?



HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE JOB SEEKER SURVEY



The Mount Isa Regional Jobs Committee (RJC) wants to hear from people who are looking for work in Mount Isa and surrounding communities.

Your feedback will help identify what's helping and what's getting in the way of finding employment, so future support can be better targeted to local needs.



Improve local
job
opportunities



Highlight
barriers to
work



Support better
employment
outcomes



Help shape future employment opportunities
Scan the QR code to take
the survey



Any questions?
rjcinfo@mountisa.qld.gov.au

The Mount Isa Regional Jobs Committee is proudly supported and funded by the Queensland Government.



Queensland
Government



REGISTER

NOW

It's FREE



**Never miss another
funding opportunity**

**YOUR PORTAL TO
OVER 1200 GRANTS
TOTALLING AROUND**

\$70

BILLION

Grant Finder is a customised web portal providing access to billions of dollars in grant funding specific to your needs.

It's FREE for all local businesses, community groups and not-for-profits.

With automatic reminders and application tracking, you'll never miss another funding opportunity.

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.RDANWQ.ORG.AU

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



BIOSECURITY UNLOCKED

Discover how biosecurity connects science, technology,
people, industry and real-world decision making.



INVESTIGATE



DIRECT



ANALYSE



MANAGE



PROTECT



COLLABORATE



RESPOND



SAFEGUARD

WHAT TO EXPECT



Interactive activities



Outbreak and response
scenarios



Practical group sessions



Real-world biosecurity
discussions



Networking with industry,
research and government



10 SEPTEMBER 2026



James Cook University,
Bebegu Yumba Campus,
Townsville



8:30AM – 4:00PM

FREE EVENT

Register now!



Cultural Capability & Cultural Responsive Training

SHAPING THE FUTURE WITH TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER KNOWLEDGE

Beyond Compliance - Shifting Behaviours



**TUESDAY
13 OCT 2026**



**09:00 AM –
04:30 PM**



**HOUSING SERVICE
CENTRE TOWNSVILLE**

WHAT WILL BE EXPLORED

- Impacts of Colonisation
- Government Policies
- Stolen Generation
- Activism
- Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait Islands)
- Ailan Kastom (Protocol & Practices)
- Significant Events and Challenges
- Cultural Safety Principles
- Cultural Responsive practice
- Addressing Bias

WHAT PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE

- Morning Tea and Lunch
- Complimentary Tea and Coffee
- Resource Booklet
- Certificate of Participation



Scan the QR Code or visit our website
for more information and to register

Our Members



Amey

APA



concentis



DYNO NOBEL



OPTUS



NSS



sunwater

