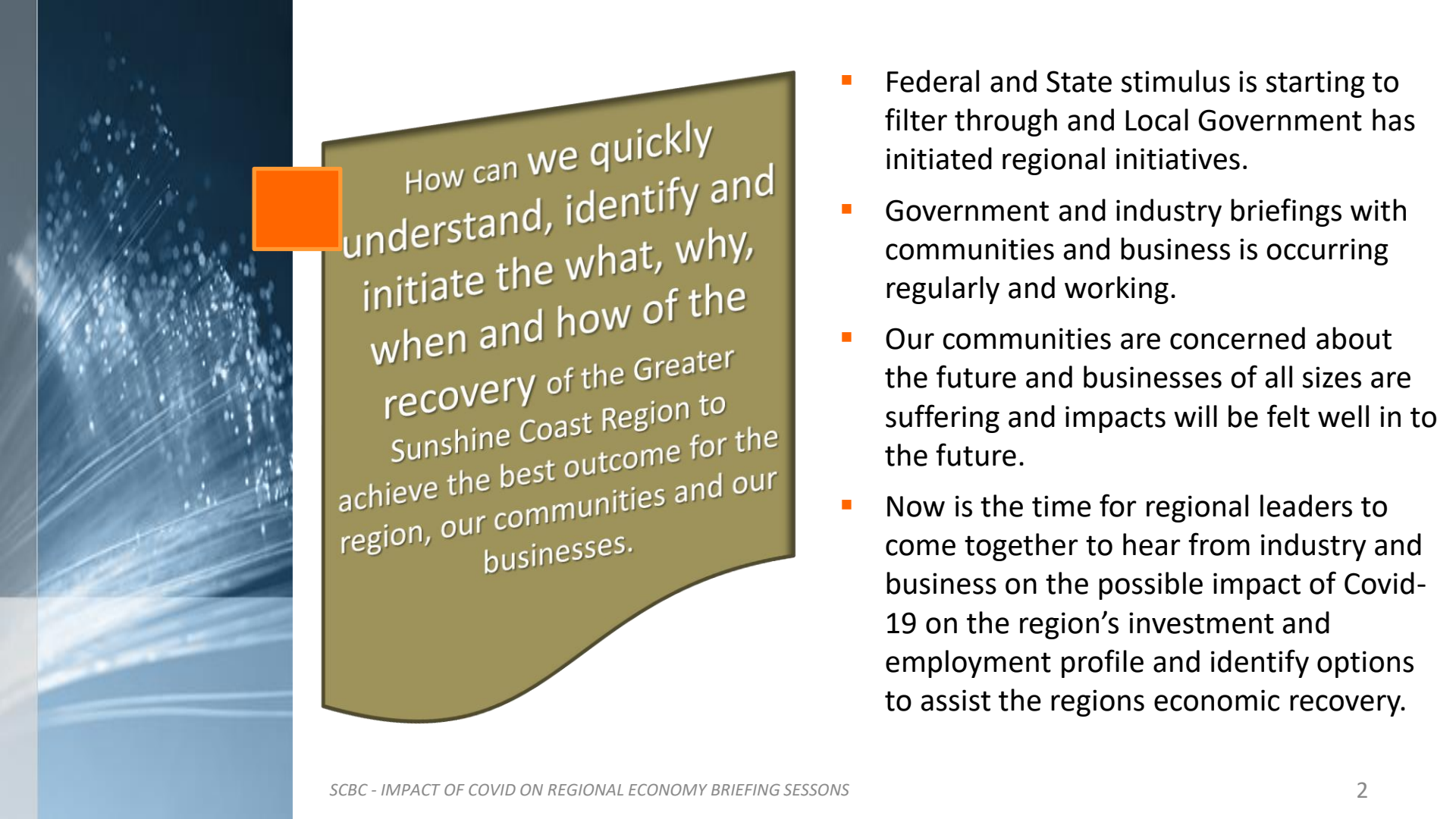


***BRINGING REGIONAL LEADERS TOGETHER***



**GREATER SUNSHINE COAST REGION  
COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY  
INDUSTRY/PROJECT BRIEFINGS**

**Commencing 22 May 2020**



How can we quickly understand, identify and initiate the what, why, when and how of the recovery of the Greater Sunshine Coast Region to achieve the best outcome for the region, our communities and our businesses.

- Federal and State stimulus is starting to filter through and Local Government has initiated regional initiatives.
- Government and industry briefings with communities and business is occurring regularly and working.
- Our communities are concerned about the future and businesses of all sizes are suffering and impacts will be felt well in to the future.
- Now is the time for regional leaders to come together to hear from industry and business on the possible impact of Covid-19 on the region's investment and employment profile and identify options to assist the regions economic recovery.



# PREPARING GREATER SUNSHINE COAST REGION FOR A SUCCESSFUL AND SWIFT RECOVERY

## Backdrop

- The globe is experiencing a Covid-19 pandemic which is having wide reaching health and economic impacts.
- The Federal Government and the Reserve Bank of Australia moved quickly to inject \$320b in financial stimulus. State Governments have also implemented various stimulus strategies and Local Government's have followed primarily by deferring and lowering fees and charges for businesses.
- A key objective of the Federal Government stimulus package has been to keep employees connected to their employing organisations to assist in the recovery period via its JobKeeper and JobSeeker programs.
- In spite of stimulus packages, national unemployment is expected to reach 10% by 30 June 2020.
- Federal, State and Local governments budgets are all under extreme pressure.
- Regional economies are at risk during and post this period of 'hibernation' and whilst the health emergency is not yet over, government and business leaders are turning their attention to the challenges of restarting the economy.



# PREPARING GREATER SUNSHINE COAST REGION FOR A SUCCESSFUL AND SWIFT RECOVERY (CONT.)

## **We need a coordinated recovery approach**

- This is an extraordinary period of global and national uncertainty. All economies are being impacted with spiralling debt, falling growth, increasing unemployment with businesses of all sizes under immense stress as they respond.
- The Sunshine Coast economy and employment is dependent on Retail, Tourism, Education and Construction with these sectors already significantly impacted. However, the regional economy is thought to be in a relatively strong position due in part to its comprehensive pipeline of projects. This is what we now need to test.
- We do not want to sugar coat our situation. We want to understand and manage it for growth as much as we can in the circumstances.
- Our political leaders have laid the foundation for economic recovery and are putting out early signals they will be turning their mind to slowly and deliberately restarting parts of the economy.
- We need to be prepared and ready to move when the recovery phase commences and there is a growing need to demonstrate to our regional business communities that the region's leaders have a plan, a recovery plan to get our region moving forward again.
- Governments are asking how they can help business, but industry are asking how we can help governments and thereby business and industry and the economy.
- Sunshine Coast Business Council (SCBC) is bringing senior political and business regional leaders together to discuss the strength of the current economy and understand the impacts Covid-19 may have on expected regional investment via its pipeline of major projects and how this may impact employment in the medium term.



# BRIEFING FROM INDUSTRY ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INDUSTRIES, MAJOR PROJECTS AND JOBS

1. Virtual briefing sessions chaired by Ms Sandy Zubrinich SCBC.
2. Initially 3 x 90 minute briefing sessions held over three (3) weeks commencing Friday 22 May and completing Friday 5 June.
3. First two sessions will consider briefing papers prepared and presented by industry and or government/council representatives.
4. Third briefing session will discuss in more detail the information provided in the first two sessions and identify the main issues to be addressed. Subject to time, it will seek to cover options to address identified issues. If time doesn't allow, a fourth session may need to occur.
5. Agenda and briefing papers will be distributed on the Monday afternoon of the week of the Zoom session.
6. These briefing sessions may lead to a joint industry and government regional taskforce to continue to work together to prioritise and drive the recovery options to bring the regional economy back to growth.



# ATTENDEES

Covering representation from 3-tiers of Government, industry and business across Greater Sunshine Coast Region

## Core group

- Federal members – Mr Ted O’Brien MP and Mr Andrew Wallace MP
- State members – Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Ms Sandy Bolton MP, Mr Andrew Powell MP and Ms Fiona Simpson MP
- Local council members – Mayor Mark Jamieson Sunshine Coast Council and Mayor Clare Stewart Noosa Council
- Industry – Sandy Zubrinich SCBC Chair, Adrian Allen Regional Manager Stockland, Andrew Brodie CEO SC Airport, Prof Tim Wess USC and Bridget Murphy
- Carol Cashman RDA Chair

## Advisers

- Industry leaders covering Health, Education, VET, PCA, UDIA, Construction, Tourism (Sunshine Coast and Noosa), Food & Agribusiness and Chambers of Commerce
- Local Council CEOs/Eco Development members
- State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning / AusIndustry, if required
- Relevant community organisations, if required





# OBJECTIVE OF BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSION

**Working within the directions and guidelines of the Covid-19 National Cabinet and Queensland State Government directions and guidelines** – operate as a connected and informed regional leadership team to understand the impact of Covid-19 on regional economic growth and jobs.

## **In scope - understanding:**

- ‘Business As Usual’ employment/unemployment trends by industry and location and the current state of Covid-19 impacts.
- The industries that are operationally and economically best surviving the Covid-19 hibernation period, why and role and capacity to lead any recovery strategies.
- The industries, sectors and individual businesses that are best positioned to emerge quickly from disruption once restrictions are lifted, and what incentives assistance if any may be required to encourage further investment.
- The current major project pipeline and governments, councils and private sector developers/ investors intention regarding proceeding with investment in planned projects and subsequent potential impacts on regional job growth and unemployment rates over the next 24 months.
- New opportunities/initiatives that may offer opportunities for investment and job growth.
- Opportunities to transition parts of the current regional workforce to new industries and opportunities to stimulate and maintain job growth.



# STATE & REGIONAL ECONOMIC BRIEFINGS

**2-4 page briefing papers to be submitted prior to first briefing session**

**Prepared by**

## **State level**

1. Overview of Queensland economy covering GDP over the past five (5) years, by industry and by jobs, and impact on both measures since 1 March 2020 (Covid-19 period).

RDA

## **Regional level**

1. Overview of Sunshine Coast and Noosa Shire economies covering GDP over the past 5 years, by industry and jobs (both total and as % of workforce), and impact on both measures since 1 March 2020 (Covid-19 period).
2. Overview of industries that have performed best under Covid-19 restrictions, why and which ones may have the best capacity to lead recovery strategies.

SCC and Noosa Council

SCC and Noosa Council





# INDUSTRY & ECONOMIC BRIEFING PRESENTATIONS

- **2-page briefing paper circulated prior to the briefing session** covering the state of the industry prior to Covid-19 and the economic impact of hibernation on regional and or industry growth, investment and jobs
- **10 minute virtual industry presentation followed by discussion**

**Session 1 presentations** (from the briefing paper recommend options to reinvigorate the industry)

1. Sunshine Coast Airport
2. Tourism industry
3. Food & Agribusiness
4. Small & medium business
5. Tertiary education
6. VET industry - TAFE and representative from private sector



# INDUSTRY & ECONOMIC BRIEFING PRESENTATIONS

- **2-page briefing paper circulated prior to the briefing session** covering the state of the industry prior to Covid-19 and the economic impact of hibernation on regional growth, investment and jobs.
- **10 minute virtual industry presentation followed by discussion**

**Session 2 presentations** (from the briefing paper recommend options to reinvigorate the industry)

1. Property and Building industry
2. Major regional projects pipeline (overview status and investment integrity of the pipeline projects)



# INDUSTRY & ECONOMIC BRIEFING PRESENTATIONS

- **2-page briefing paper circulated prior to the briefing session** covering the state of the industry prior to Covid-19 and the economic impact of hibernation on regional growth, investment and jobs.
- **10 minute virtual industry presentation followed by discussion**

## Session 3

1. Opportunities to transition parts of the current regional workforce in to new industries
2. Discussion of Session 1 and 2 presentations
3. Identify options and priorities for growth, investment and jobs



# THOUGHT STARTERS

## **RBA Governor - Bridge to recovery is a pro growth agenda**

- Make the economy more competitive and productive
- Abolish regulations and reduction of red tape, freeing up markets to encourage investment and innovation
- Tackle the big reforms such as tax and IR reform
- IR reform and more flexible labour market structure
- Increase productivity and wages
- Skilling and upskilling – transitioning the workforce

## **Ms Jennifer Westacott, CEO Business Council of Australia**

*“When we are making decisions about our recovery, we need to ask ourselves does this create a new job, a secure job, better paid job or does it get someone back to work?”*



# THOUGHT STARTERS

## INDICATIVE AND THE NATIONAL POSITION IN LATE APRIL

- Approaching 900,000 jobs lost since business and social distancing restrictions introduced– by age category
  - 9.9% of workers aged under 20
  - 8.8% aged in their 20s
  - 5% aged in their 30s
  - 4.3% aged in their 40s
  - 3.8% aged in their 50s
  - 4% aged in their 60s
- Heading toward a 10% unemployment rate nationally, projected to remain around 6 -7% into the foreseeable future. Higher youth unemployment rates and Queensland likely to perform at the higher end in both.
- So what does this imply for our region, if anything?



# READING

- [https://www.bca.com.au/business\\_crucial\\_to\\_a\\_safe\\_return\\_to\\_normalmr](https://www.bca.com.au/business_crucial_to_a_safe_return_to_normalmr)
- [https://www.bca.com.au/making\\_the\\_right\\_choices\\_will\\_be\\_crucial\\_to\\_recovery](https://www.bca.com.au/making_the_right_choices_will_be_crucial_to_recovery)