









An Australian Government Initiative



# RDA GOLD COAST

## e-Bulletin

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Local people creating local opportunities

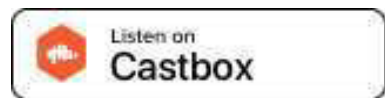


# Latest podcast

## Rebecca Hyssett, CSQ

The boundless opportunities in our Gold Coast construction sector

 Listen on our website



This week's podcast guest, Rebecca Hyssett, is the Gold Coast's own 'Pied Piper' for the building and construction industry. As Industry Engagement Officer for Construction Skills Queensland (CSQ), she is absolutely passionate about encouraging and supporting the next generation of people into a trade.

And with 61 cranes currently towering over the Gold Coast, plus major projects underway like the Coomera Connector, SkyRidge at Worongary, Coomera Hospital and the Light Rail extension to Burleigh, the Gold Coast is crying out for more

building and construction workers – we actually need 2.5 times the current workforce just to complete the program of works in the pipeline over the next 10 years.

In this episode you'll hear about CSQ's vital role in the industry, the 70 different career paths on offer, why CSQ is actively encouraging a more diverse workforce, including women, the mature-aged, and those from a multicultural background, and how to get your foot in the door of this booming Gold Coast sector.



Rebecca Hyssett is an Industry Engagement Manager with Construction Skills Queensland, focusing on the Gold Coast region. Rebecca excels in helping businesses understand workforce capabilities and designing plans to maximize their team potential.

She takes pride in witnessing individuals of all ages discover their passion and evolve from new entrants to leaders in their respective fields.

She believes that building personal connections through face-to-face interactions allows individuals to feel comfortable asking questions and gathering necessary information within the industry.

This project is delivering on the Australian Government's **Regional Investment Framework**, in the focus area of 'Investing in People' (targeted investment in skills, education and local leadership capacity) and 'Investing in Industries & Local Economies' (Supporting the conditions needed for regional industries to diversify and grow).

# 2024 Federal Budget

Address by the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP

in partnership with



## Business Chamber Queensland

### 2024 Federal Budget Address

The Business Chamber QLD hosted the 2024 Federal Budget Address Luncheon where the Federal Treasurer, the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP, presented the key highlights of 2024-25 budget and what it means for businesses in May.

During his keynote address, the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP provided valuable insights into the budget's impact and future prospects for our economy.

Business Chamber QLD CEO, Heidi Cooper, engaged in a compelling interview with the Treasurer, discussing the pressing issues raised by businesses and what they need for success in Queensland.

For information on the 2024-25 Federal Budget, RDA GC have an interactive budget which provides a comprehensive outline across every sector.

 [Interactive Budget](#)







## Experience Gold Coast Careers Alliance Network Event

Experience Gold Coast held its second Careers Alliance Network event, focusing on the Health Care and Social Assistance industry in May.

RDA GC CEO Estella Rodighiero was an invited panelist where she shed light on insights of this emerging industry, which is one of the City's fastest-growing sectors, experiencing remarkable growth since its inception just two decades ago.

Estella highlighted RDA Gold Coast-initiated Gold Coast Emerging Biomedical Industry Study and Action Plan, the first of its kind in the country, which defined the Gold Coast's current biomedical capability, projected future growth and identify key actions culminating in a 10-year action plan to support this growth.

Also highlighted was the Biomedical Industry Capability Guide designed to shine the spotlight on our booming biomed sector, both nationally and internationally. Featuring information on our world-class institutions, extensive research and clinical trial capabilities, innovative biomed start-ups and sector-supporting organisations.

[RDA GC Biomedical Study](#)

[Capability Guide](#)





**Have your say!**

# Regional Development Australia (RDA) Stakeholder Survey

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a national network of committees comprising local leaders collaborating with government, businesses, and community groups. RDA Gold Coast, among the 50 RDAs nationwide as of 2024, focuses on fostering economic development opportunities and job growth within its region.

The **RDA Stakeholder Survey** aims to enhance understanding of how effectively RDA Gold Coast engages with its committees and stakeholders across the network, including those from the community, business, and government sectors.

Your feedback will help inform improvements to the RDA program, ensuring it continues to effectively support economic growth and job creation in the Gold Coast region.

 The survey takes approximately 10-15 minutes and closes on Wednesday July 10, 2024.


 [Survey Link](#)





## For Indigenous Businesses

# Free Procurement and Tender Workshops

 Supply Nation is proud to partner with Downer to offer free procurement and tender training workshops for Indigenous businesses.

These workshops are designed to help Indigenous businesses access opportunities in major state projects, with a focus on the Queensland Train Manufacturing Program (QTMP).

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the QTMP requirements, bid preparation, compliance with work health and safety and environmental management systems, and more.

South East Queensland Training Sessions:

 In-person: Wednesday 19 June 2024, 10am – 2pm, Pimpama Community Centre

 Online: Tuesday 3 July 2024, 10am – 2pm, via Zoom

**Register now:**

 **Pimpama**

 **Online**







## Connecting local employers with local talent

# Gold Coast Local Jobs Roadshow

The **Gold Coast Local Jobs Roadshow**, a series of three events aiming to connect local employers with local job seekers, including school students in Years 11 - 12, local unemployed and job changers.

Event Details (all events will run from 9.00am to 1.00pm)

📍 Gold Coast Central - Robina Community Centre - 6th August 2024

📍 Gold Coast North - Foxwell State High School - 13th August 2024

📍 Gold Coast South - Elanora State High School - 20 August 2024

This initiative is brought to you by the Department of Employment Small Business and Training, Manufacturing Skills Queensland, Workforce Australia, and the Department of Education.

These events are strictly for businesses with job vacancies, looking to connect with active and potential employees for jobs now or in the future. Of particular interest are organisations offering school-based traineeships and apprenticeships or looking to inspire potential employees to join your industry.

**Register now:**

Gold Coast Central

📅 Gold Coast North

📅 Gold Coast South

Interested in being a stallholder? Scan the QR Code to register your interest👉






# Have your say! 2024 Regional Telecommunications Review

The **Regional Telecommunications Review** (the Review) is an opportunity for people living and working in regional, rural and remote Australia to share their views and experiences using telecommunications services.

The Review, which takes place every three years, sees the Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee examine the experiences of people in regional, rural, and remote parts of Australia with telecommunications delivery, as well as considering the unique needs of First Nations communities.

Have your say by submitting an online submission.

 Online Submissions closes on 31 July 2024

 [Have your say](#)





# Meet RDA Gold Coast Treasurer

## Ms. Robyn Keenan

1. Who has been your biggest inspiration in your career, and why?

I had a manager in Darwin (when I lived there in 1990s) who inspired me to continually develop my skills and embrace a mindset of continuous improvement. Their leadership style emphasised the value of learning, both for professional development and personal fulfillment. They encouraged me to seek out new challenges, take on projects beyond my comfort zone, and learn from failures.

This approach not only enhanced my abilities but also fostered a commitment to lifelong learning. As I honed my skills, I discovered that providing exceptional service to others whether customers, colleagues, or the community—was deeply rewarding. Lifelong learners recognise that knowledge is a journey, not a destination, and they actively seek opportunities to expand their expertise and contribute meaningfully to the community around them.

2. What do you find most rewarding about your role as National RTO Manager for ACE Community Colleges?

As the National RTO Manager, I find my skills in workforce planning immensely rewarding. A skilled workforce drives economic growth. In tourism, it attracts visitors, generates revenue, and supports local businesses. In healthcare, it ensures efficient service delivery and care for our vulnerable within the community.

Remember, workforce planning is not just about numbers its about shaping the future of these vital sectors!



3. What advice would you give to someone looking to start a career in the Vocational Education and Training sector?

Starting a career in vocational education and training (VET) can be highly rewarding, as it allows you to play a crucial role in developing skilled professionals in various your industry of passion.

- 1) Incorporate as much practical, hands-on learning as possible. Simulate real-world scenarios to provide students with valuable experience.
- 2) Act as a mentor to your students. Provide guidance, support, and career advice.
- 3) Leverage technology and AI.

# Meet RDA Gold Coast Treasurer

## Ms. Robyn Keenan

4. Can you share a specific example of a project or initiative that you are particularly proud of?

Project Management Team and implementor of the QTIC Training Express 2005

Australia's first touring hospitality and tourism training train, the QTIC Training Express was an innovative plan to take hospitality education to Queensland's regional areas. The 'Training Train' was a 10-carriage, mobile training facility on a dedicated Queensland Rail train designed to support regional and rural tourism and hospitality operators.

At a cost of more than one million dollars, the QTIC Training Express will travel throughout Queensland over an eight week period, stopping in 14 destinations: Toowoomba, Roma, Chinchilla, Brisbane, Nambour, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Emerald, Longreach, Mackay, Proserpine, Townsville, Mt Isa and Cairns.

The project brought together some of Queensland's leading hospitality and tourism suppliers, operators and training providers, including Carlton and United Brewery, Trojan Corporate, Cook On, Merlo's Coffee, Sarina Russo Schools Australia, TAFEs and Australian Apprenticeship Centres in fully fitted-out and interactive training carriages.

Training was delivered by industry experts who are interesting and informative, offering relevant material and resources to the topic and region, sessions included; responsible service of alcohol, cooking demonstrations and sushi making, barista, food and beverage service, responsible gambling and an interactive trade display with information on traineeships and apprenticeships and job services.

5. As the Treasurer of RDA Gold Coast, what aspects of your role do you find rewarding?

Serving as treasurer allows me to demonstrate leadership and governance skills and abilities.

6. Could you outline the value of RDA for the Gold Coast?

1. Community and workforce development
  - Skills and Training: The organisation supports workforce development initiatives, ensuring that the local labor force is skilled and ready to meet the needs of the regions industries.
  - Community Engagement: RDA Gold Coast engages with the community to identify needs and priorities, ensuring that development initiatives align with local aspirations.
2. Support for local businesses
  - Business Support Programs: RDA Gold Coast provides support and resources for local businesses, including advisory services, workshops, and networking opportunities.
  - Innovation and Entrepreneurship: It encourages innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting startups and helping businesses to adopt new technologies and practices.



# About the RDA Gold Coast Committee

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Gold Coast is part of a national network of committees which are critical to the delivery of the Australian Government's Regional Investment Framework (RIF). The RIF is ensuring a more coordinated approach to regional development, underpinned by strong local engagement and on-the-ground knowledge.

RDA Gold Coast helps to drive economic growth, innovation and entrepreneurship in our region, by facilitating investment in community, industry and the environment. We coordinate across all levels of government, business sectors and the community to make these investments work better.



Nick Scott, Chair



Dr Chris Davis, Deputy Chair



David Zohar



Robyn Keenan



Lucy Ardern



Geoff Smith



Brett James



Carl Bruhn

# Missed out on an e-Bulletin?

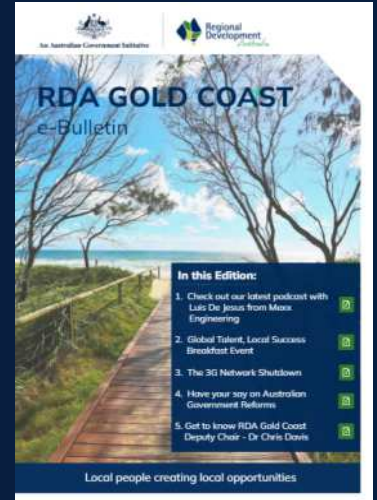
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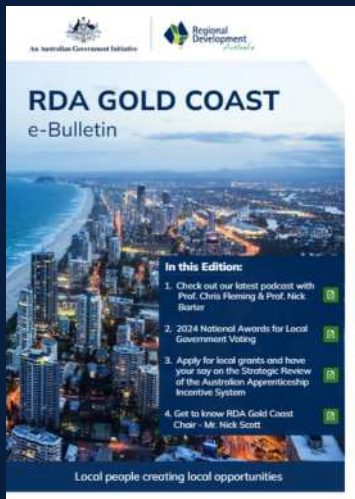
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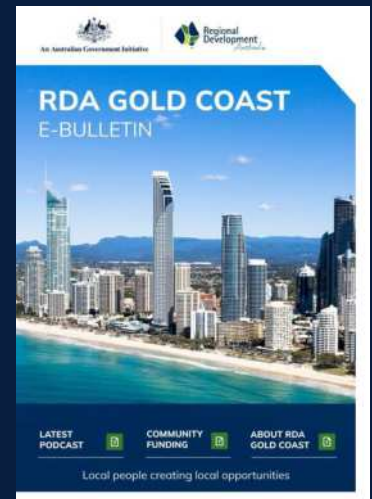
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# Get in touch

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[sustainablegoldcoast.org.au](http://sustainablegoldcoast.org.au)



[biomed.rdagoldcoast.org.au](http://biomed.rdagoldcoast.org.au)



[gcjobs.rdagoldcoast.org.au](http://gcjobs.rdagoldcoast.org.au)



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