Reconciliation Action Plan a focus for Council

Bundaberg Regional Council will continue to build cultural awareness, respect and inclusion in 2022-23 with the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan.

Council Arts, Culture and Events portfolio spokesperson Cr John Learmonth said, with the Council's First Nations Strategy nearing completion, the plan was the next step in developing and implementing cultural strategies and actions.

"Bundaberg Regional Council acknowledges the traditional Country of the Taribelang Bunda, Gooreng Gooreng, Gurang, and Bailai Peoples and recognise that this Country has always been and continues to be of cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance," Cr Learmonth said.

"By developing a Reconciliation Action Plan, we will be able to take strategic and meaningful action to advance reconciliation in our community through relationships, respect and opportunities."

He said the First Nations Strategy would be finalised and adopted by Council following which the CEO could officially register Council with Reconciliation Australia.

"Initiatives like the annual Milbi Festival have already demonstrated that our community shares our desire to celebrate and acknowledge First Nations culture and history.

"While we have been making positive strides in this area over recent years, the formal process helps to highlight our commitment to reconciliation and the importance Council places on this process."

Cr Learmonth said within the Arts, Culture and Events portfolio, Council would also continue to deliver a range of popular programs.

"Annual events like the Childers, Milbi and Taste Bundaberg Festivals are set to continue for the enjoyment of locals and to attract visitors to our region from far and wide.

"Our libraries will continue to offer the First 5 Forever Literacy initiative and a raft of services for community members of all ages.

"Galleries in Childers and Bundaberg will continue to provide development opportunities for the local arts community and attract a high calibre of touring and curated exhibitions."



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For more information on upcoming Arts, Culture and Events initiatives visit Council's <u>Arts</u> <u>Bundaberg</u> or <u>What's On</u> websites.

