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December 2009

Toward Q2 eNews

Welcome to the December edition of Toward Q2 eNews.

This has been an extraordinary year, and as Queenslanders, we've pulled together to achieve amazing things.

In the past few months, we've delivered our first annual progress report for *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland* and we've unveiled long-term plans for an underground metro.

As we head into the next year, I'd like to thank you for your contribution and ongoing commitment to making Tomorrow's Queensland strong, green, smart, healthy and fair. We're making progress but we still have a long way to go.

I wish you, your family and friends, all the very best for a safe holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Anna Bligh MP
Premier of Queensland

Q2 Partners profile



Suncorp's Sunwise program is helping achieve the Q2 target to cut unsafe sun exposure by one-third and make Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people.

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia and with regular checkups and the adoption of sun safety practices, this disease is largely preventable.

Since the SunWise program began, Suncorp has distributed thousands of litres of free sunscreen to communities across the state and Suncorp employees have volunteered more than 24,000 hours of their own time to raise awareness for sun protection.

Suncorp developed the SunWise program to help educate the community about the dangers of sun exposure and, at the same time, have been changing behaviour with prevention programs, and providing support for valuable research into a cure.

For today's UV reading and more sun safe information visit www.suncorp.com.au/sunwise

To find out more about the Q2 Partners program or to become a Q2 Partner visit www.towardq2.qld.gov.au/tomorrow.

First Q2 Annual Progress Report



The *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland Annual Progress Report 2008-2009* was recently released and after the first 12 months, progress toward our 10 long-term targets is heading in the right direction.

Progress toward these targets is the result of the shared ambitions, responsibility and actions of individuals and families, industry and business, communities and all levels of government. We will continue to measure our progress and report to you.

Progress toward the targets includes:

- Consistent with the rest of Australia, Queensland's economic growth has slowed over the past 12 months, however our \$18.2 billion building program is helping protect jobs.
- Queensland's average carbon footprint fell by 4.9 per cent, from 13.77

tonnes to 13.10 tonnes per household. That's equivalent to taking 250,000 cars off the road for a year.

- We've increased Queensland's national park estate by 413,310 hectares.
- Work has started on a \$321 million program to build 240 new kindergartens.
- There has been an increase in the proportion of Queenslanders who hold Certificate III qualifications and above, from 50.3 per cent in 2007 to 51.4 per cent in 2008.
- Queensland again had the shortest waiting times nationally for elective surgery. Queensland improved from sixth to third place of all Australian states for median waiting times in emergency departments.
- Smoking rates decreased by 1.4 per cent for men and 1.1 per cent for women between 2007 and 2009.
- Rates of sunburn declined from 15 per cent in 2006-07 to 13 per cent in 2009.
- VolBiz and Golden Gurus programs were launched to help meet our target to increase the number of Queenslanders who volunteer by 50 per cent.

To find out more about progress, or to get involved, visit www.towardq2.qld.gov.au and download a copy of the *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland Annual Progress Report 2008-09*.

Queensland home to Australia's greenest building



The \$44.5 million Zillmere Joint Contact Centre recently received the highest Green Star design rating ever given to an office building in Australia, and when completed next year will help reduce our carbon footprint by one-third with reduced electricity use.

The *6 Star Green Star - Office Design v2* rating awarded by the Green Building Council, makes the centre the country's most ecologically sustainable office building that is comparable to any in the world.

Eco-friendly features include the air-conditioning system which includes thermal storage and off peak cooling; personalised, comfort controlled, workstations; chilled beam technology; and fresh air supply 150 per cent above Australian standards.

The building will have water efficient appliances and fittings and an integrated water management system that will collect, treat and reuse water. Maximum use of daylight harvesting will minimise artificial light in the day.

Construction is currently underway and when completed in early 2010 the building will provide contract centre facilities 24 hours a day, seven days a week for Smart Service Queensland and Queensland Police.

The future for Brisbane's transport network



The State Government has unveiled sweeping plans to modernise Brisbane's public transport network including an underground rail network to be built under the city over the next two decades.

As part of these plans, the State Government has said we should consider an international-standard underground metro rail network for Brisbane similar to the London Tube and the Paris Metro that would link Toowong, West End, the City, Newstead, Bowen Hills, Bulimba and Hamilton North Shore.

Queensland continues to experience rapid population growth, including a doubling of the population over the next 50 years – and on current trend 70 per cent of new residents may settle in the South East corner.

Thirteen years ago, the State Government committed to delivering a world-class busway network. Today, the South East Busway is substantially completed, the Northern Busway is almost half complete and three-quarters of the Eastern Busway is still to come. We've made great progress, but these major transport infrastructure projects take time to plan and construct.

By 2030, the South East's population will hit almost 4.5 million - bigger than cities where underground metros are already commonplace, including Copenhagen, Montreal, Munich and Singapore.

If we want the first metro train to leave the station by 2030 we need time to plan and construct. Let's start work now for a strong, green and healthy Queensland.

ClimateSmart Home Service



The ClimateSmart Home Service offers all Queenslanders the opportunity to make a genuine contribution to cutting Queenslanders' carbon footprint by one-third, with the added benefit of saving hundreds of dollars on power and water bills.

More than 135,000 Queensland households have signed up to the ClimateSmart Home Service since its launch in January this year.

These bill-busting homes will collectively save \$60.75 million a year on their power bills with help from the revolutionary wireless power monitor.

Most importantly, 2.5 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions will be saved, further boosting our efforts toward the Q2 target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The ClimateSmart Home Service is available across the state. A regional roadshow will visit the following council areas in 2010:

- Banana Shire Council (Feb to Mar)
- Central Highlands Regional Council (Mar to Apr)
- Isaac Regional Council (May to Jun)
- Whitsunday Regional Council (Jul to Sep)
- Cassowary Coast Regional Council (Sep to Oct)
- South Burnett Regional Council (Oct to Nov)

More information on the ClimateSmart Home Service is available at www.climatesmarthome.com.au.

New kindergartens for Queensland kids



New kindergartens will soon be popping up on school sites throughout Queensland, with the biggest rollout of new kindy buildings Queensland has ever seen now underway.

The \$321 million program to build 240 new kindergartens is an investment in Queensland's future and is contributing to the achievement of our Q2 target that all children have access to a quality early childhood education so they are ready for school.

The Moorooka kindergarten module was recently erected onsite at Moorooka State School after being built offsite in a factory at Yatala where other kindergarten buildings are under construction.

Others due to open in 2010 at Oonoonba State School in Townsville and Beaconsfield State School in Mackay will be constructed on site and work has already commenced on the new kindergarten at Stretton State College which is also being built on site.

Two new kindergartens will also open in 2010 at Prince Peace of College in Everton Hills and St Andrew's College at Redlynch in Cairns.

Planning is already underway for a further 12 to be built in 2011, with the full 240 kindergartens due to be operational by 2014.

For more information visit the [Office for Early Childhood Education and Care](http://education.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood) at education.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood.

Exploring the issues influencing volunteering over the next decade



More than 100 delegates from community organisations, government volunteer programs, universities and the corporate sector explored key issues that will influence volunteering over the next decade at the International Volunteer Day Symposium.

The symposium held in Brisbane on 4 December 2009 identified that people are engaging in volunteering in new ways that reflect their interests and passions.

If we are to meet our target to increase the number of Queenslanders who volunteer by 50 per cent it's important for organisations to think outside the box and create flexible opportunities that provide volunteers with meaningful experiences that fit in with their busy lives.

New models of volunteering, the importance of social inclusion and building sustainable corporate partnerships were themes explored in a series of panel discussions.

An audio recording of the keynote address and summaries of the panel discussions will soon be available on the [Getinvolved](http://www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au) website.

For more information contact the Office for Volunteering, Department of Communities on 07 3405 6335 or visit www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au.

Construction WorkHealth Initiative Pilot



A taskforce led by Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ) is helping to improve the health of Queensland's 200,000 outdoor workers and contributes to the Q2 target to cut obesity, smoking, heavy drinking and unsafe sun exposure by one-third.

The recent *Construction WorkHealth Initiative Pilot* painted a bleak picture of the health of 1000 Queensland construction workers who had assessments earlier this year.

Two-thirds were overweight or obese and drank alcohol at a risky level. One-third were smokers and had at risk blood-pressure levels. One in five of the workers who had skin cancer screenings needed immediate attention.

Targeted campaigns to assist outdoor workers include pilot programs in local

government, the rural sector and construction and building. WHSQ also will develop strategies to improve sun safe practices and produce guidelines for a quit-smoking program model.

You can find out more about the *Construction WorkHealth Initiative Pilot* by phoning 3227 6108.

Share your ideas

What can we do individually, as communities and as a state to put Queensland out in front?

Share your ideas:

- **Online:** [Share your ideas form](#)
- **By phone:** 1800 082 105
- **By mail:** Performance and Delivery Office, PO Box 15185, City East QLD 4002

