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February 2010

Toward Q2 eNews

Welcome to the February edition of Toward Q2 eNews.

2010 is set to be a significant year for education in Queensland with the recent release of the *A Flying Start for Queensland Children* discussion paper.

In March, we will be holding a South East Queensland Growth Management Summit, bringing together industry experts and the community to discuss growth, liveability and sustainability.

And three new Q2 Partners are helping pave a green and sustainable future as part of the Toward Q2 vision.

These initiatives are helping make Tomorrow's Queensland strong, green, smart, healthy and fair.

Anna Bligh MP
Premier of Queensland

Q2 Partners greening Queensland's future



Climate Coolers, SEQ Catchments and the Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation are our first Q2 Partners for 2010.

These three organisations are rising to the challenges of today and tomorrow and showing how it is done.

Together they are delivering projects that directly contribute to the Q2 targets to cut Queenslanders' carbon footprint by one-third and protect 50 per cent more land for nature conservation and public recreation.

Climate Coolers are instrumental in helping to achieve the Q2 green targets by engaging women of all ages to cut a total of one million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions nationwide.

The Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation is helping expand the state's recreation area by establishing a Queensland-wide baseline figure for freehold land owned by individuals that is used for public recreation.

The SEQ Catchment's Brisbane Valley Rail Trail is converting 145km of disused railway line into a public space for walkers, runners, cyclists and horse riders.

The Q2 Partners program is one small way we can recognise the shared responsibility that business, community, industry and local government are taking toward the achievement of the Q2 targets.

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

A Flying Start for Queensland Children



The Government is committed to providing all Queensland children with a flying start to learning. The recently launched *A Flying Start for Queensland Children* discussion paper gives all Queenslanders the chance to have their say on the next big reforms which will help shape the future of education in Queensland.

Ideas include moving Year 7 to secondary school in 2014 and setting a high bar for teaching, learning and discipline standards in all Queensland schools.

Some new programs are already under way. These include encouraging more families to read to young children and enlisting volunteer 'Queensland Ready Readers' in our primary schools.

We want to hear what you think about our big plans.

You can obtain a copy of this discussion paper or get further information by visiting www.qld.gov.au, telephoning 1800 452 056 or participating in a community forum.

Consultation is open until 30 June 2010.

Queenslanders invited to get involved in shaping Queensland's future



Growth is happening. Our challenge and our opportunity is to manage that growth now to ensure the Queensland we love today is here tomorrow.

This week I launched the State Government's Growth Management Summit website and invited members of the public to get involved in shaping Queensland's future.

The Queensland Growth Management Summit will take place in the State Library on 30 and 31 March.

The summit will be streamed online live at growthsummit.premiers.qld.gov.au and Queenslanders all over the State will have the chance to get involved.

This a chance for members of the public to be part of the debate about how we better manage growth in Brisbane. The website will give Queenslanders the chance to submit questions that can be asked at the summit.

Visitors to the website will be asked to send their thoughts, provide feedback, suggestions or ideas to Queensland Government's Growth Management Summit team.

There are a limited number of places at the summit for members of the public. Applications can be made through the [website](#) and close at 5pm on Friday 12 March. Successful applicants will be randomly selected and notified on 16 March.

ClimateSmart Sustainability Awards



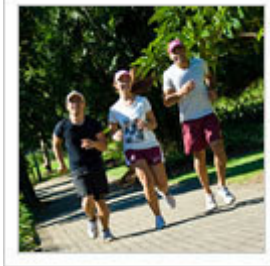
Nominations are now open for Queensland-based projects and programs that reflect the Q2 target to cut by one-third Queenslanders' carbon footprint with reduced car and electricity use.

The inaugural 2010 Premier's ClimateSmart Sustainability Awards will showcase the achievements of Queenslanders who are helping reduce our carbon footprint.

We want to hear about the 'green' initiatives you are adopting to help protect our lifestyle and environment. The awards are open to all Queenslanders, business, industry, schools and local government and entries close on Friday 26 March 2010.

For more information or to apply online, visit www.derm.qld.gov.au/premiersawards or phone (07) 3225 1764.

Workers to take steps to healthier lifestyle



Queensland Government employees in the Brisbane CBD will be able to boast a healthier lifestyle by taking the stairs instead of using the lifts in 2010.

The stairwells in 13 government office buildings across the CBD have been opened to encourage staff to use the stairs.

Up to 15,000 Queensland Government employees will have the option of taking the stairs, helping us achieve our Q2 ambition of making Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people.

Did you know?

- climbing 1452 flights of stairs is equivalent to climbing Mount Everest
- walking up eight flights of stairs a day for a year burns off four days' intake of food
- stair climbing requires eight to 11 kilocalories of energy every minute
- climbing stairs for seven minutes a day expends the equivalent energy required to reduce heart disease death by 62 per cent.

The Healthy Lifestyles in Government Buildings initiative is being rolled out following a successful six month trial last year.

Work commences on new science and research hub



Queensland has cemented its reputation as a dynamic medical research and development hub with work beginning on a \$179 million centre at Herston in Brisbane this month.

The Queensland Institute of Medical Research Centre will create about 360 jobs during construction. When completed in early 2012 the centre will be home to 20 new research laboratories and staffed by 400 scientists and students.

The centre joins the new eco science precinct at Boggo Rd, the Translational Research Institute at Princess Alexandra Hospital and QUT's Science and Technology and Community Precinct which are under construction.

New scientific infrastructure like this will help us reach our Q2 ambition to create a diverse economy powered by bright ideas.

Visit www.qimr.edu.au for further information.

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

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