

QUEANBEYAN AGE COLUMN 7 MARCH 2008

QBC SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR QUEANBEYAN:

Queanbeyan Business Council has welcomed Queanbeyan city Council's decision to set up an interim Development Board as an incorporated body in partnership with the business sector.

This followed a recommendation made by former QCC President Ian McNamee at the joint workshop between QCC, QBC and BEC held on 31 January, as a first step in implementing a permanent Development Board with Council, business and community representation.

QBC elected three representatives, President, Mr. Bill Baker, Immediate Past President, Mr. Ian McNamee and Vice-President Mr. Jeremy Wyatt to serve on the Interim Board. Capital Region BEC will also provide a Member to join with QCC and QBC.

Roles of the Development Board will include promotion of the City and identifying constraints to the sustainable development of Queanbeyan. QBC believes these are roles that can best be achieved by stakeholders working together, rather than individually.

The QBC team believes the resources, experience and contacts available within each of the three organisations can, when used together in a constructive manner, make a strong impact on cross-border issues such as an integrated roads strategy and guaranteed water supply.

SHOPPING LOCALLY CAN BE GOOD FOR EVERYONE:

The depth and breadth of business in Queanbeyan is really quite extraordinary. We are all familiar with the various retail precincts in the City including our main Streets, Riverside Plaza, City Link, Crawford Centre, Karabar and Jerrabomberra, and our supermarkets are hard to match anywhere in terms of value and variety.

A drive around the industrial areas off Yass and Gilmore Roads can be quite an eye-opener. Building supplies, transport companies, home decorating, automotive specialists, equipment hire and others rub shoulders with an array of arts/design businesses and high tech manufacturers. If you have a free moment, even at the weekend, it is well worth having a look.

If we all make a conscious effort to support our local businesses, the resulting cash-flow revolves throughout our City to the benefit of all.

We are not merely talking of retail, but also manufacturers, health services, lawyers, accountants, real estate, business services, consultants, electricians, plumbers, motor repairs, dry-cleaners – the list is almost endless.

Business to business is an important part of this equation, and we do know that the existence of quality networks is an important reason many businesses are here in the first place. If you are in business, talk to other businesses –

find out who they deal with. Networking, particularly local networking, can pay great dividends.

Speaking of business networking, why not register for the highly successful monthly BEC breakfasts. Contact Helena at the BEC on 6297 3121 for more information.