

Mid North Mutterings



MID NORTH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD INC

Volume 1, Issue 9

June 2007

New Chairperson for Board

Following the recent resignation of Jeff Burgess, Deputy Chairperson Kay Matthias has been appointed as the new Chair of the Board at the meeting held on April 26.

Kay has stated it will be business as usual. As has been stated in the local media the Northern Areas Council has decided that their future alignment for Regional Development matters are more closely aligned with the Southern Flinders Board and this Board will no longer service the townships of Jamestown and Spalding and areas in between, post 30 June 2007.

Negotiations to extend the Board's Resource Agreement for a further 12 months are well underway thanks to the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council and Regional Council of Goyder covering the Northern Areas funding contributions.

Outgoing Board Chair, Jeff Burgess stated that the Board is well placed for the future, having dedicated staff to carry out the Board's Strategic Directions. The recent announcement of the AusIndustry funding (see article pg 3) along with the approval of special funding from Regional Development Minister Maywald for the Bower Special Zone project of \$20,000 and an application for funding through Regional Partnerships is a strong indication

that the Board is functioning well.

The recent review carried out by Deloitte's on the Board's activities which was commissioned by the Department of Trade and Economic Development has shown that the Board's activities are in line with the Resource Agreement with the South Australian Government and partner Councils.



Special points of interest:

- NEW CHAIRPERSON
- CHECK OUT OUR WEBPAGE

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CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE

www.mnrdb.com.au

All the business & events Information you need.

Join our mailing list to receive Up to date news from around The region.



Government Red Tape

Small Business Minister Karlene Maywald has launched a new website for the State Government Competitiveness Council which will allow industry groups, businesses and individuals to make suggestions on ways to cut unnecessary red tape for business.

The Competitiveness Council wants to hear practical suggestions for change or improvements that will help businesses save time and money when complying with State Government rules and regulations.

The South Australian Government is committed to reducing red tape for business by at least 25 per cent by mid-2008.

The Competitiveness Council has one clear task – to recommend practical ways the State Government can make SA the most competitive place to do business in Australia and New Zealand.

To learn more about the Red Tape Project and to submit your confidential ideas, go to www.competitivesa.biz and click on the red tape reduction section.

The website will be an important tool for government in listening to the business community and creating a climate where business can thrive and expand. Please feel free to promote it to your colleagues and networks.



South Australia Works out a positive outcome for Maureen!

Maureen's story gives heart to all those who battle against the odds. With a bit of well-timed and appropriate help she has achieved an exciting new direction in her life that has lead to satisfying employment.

The assistance she received came from the 'My Job' project, which is a pre-employment and case management project being run by Employment Directions as part of the Mid North 06-07 Employment & Skills Formation Plan with SA Works in the Regions funds.

Maureen is a 37 yr-old widow with 2 children. She registered with the 'My Job' project when she saw it advertised in the local media. Employment Directions put her through a Career Awareness course, and helped her develop a resume.

She says she is 'a real outdoor person', and has always had animals, so she was looking for an outdoors job. She started work with Coolangatta Trust at Hilltown, where she helps with the artificial insemination of pigs, and farrowing - at the moment she is in charge of 25 sows about to drop their piglets! She also works with cows and goats on the farm, so gets plenty of variety. The job requires her to work quite a bit on her own but she doesn't mind that at all.

Last year she studied Women's Education Certificate at TAFE, and now she is using the computer skills she learnt there to put information onto a new computer program about the pigs.

She is hoping the position will develop into a real career for her, because she loves the work. She has been told she could 'go a long way' in this rapidly growing industry in the region and the state. The best of luck Maureen!



Maureen with one of the pigs



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Ph - 8842 3115
Email -
info@mnrdb.com.au



AusIndustry Funding Bid Win (\$280,000)

The Board has been successful in its bid for round two funding under the 'Australian Government's Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business Program'.

A project called "Developing emerging young and other entrepreneurs in South Australia's Mid North" was developed in conjunction with Rural Directions Pty Ltd, who will be delivering the program.

The project will provide tailored skills training and mentoring support for existing young and other business owners within the Mid North region. The project will enhance skills development through awareness seminars and tailored short courses. This will be supported by both individual business and enterprise development group mentoring activities and business services.

The program will commence in July 2007 and run for two years.

The program will be delivered across the region from Freeling to Port Pirie and across to Kadina. Support has also been given by adjoining Regional Development Boards in Barossa, Yorke and Southern Flinders.



An Australian Government Initiative

AusIndustry

"This is an Australian Government funded initiative under the Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business program"

Starting a New Business?

If you are thinking about starting up your own business then the Mid North Regional Development Board is a good place to start. The Board through its Business Development Officer can provide free, independent assistance on how to prepare a business plan, conduct market research and guidance on various business structure options. This service is FREE and aimed at pointing you in the right direction with respect to licensing and regulatory compliance, business planning, market research, management & operational structures, business viability & feasibility studies and skills training & evaluation.

Whether you are planning to start a home-based business or going into commercial premises, questions like "How will the business make money?" "Do the people working in the business have the right skills to run the business?" are only two of many questions that need to be answered well before the business is started.



It is often said "If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail" so instead of going around in circles take a look at the information already available through the Board's website www.mnrdb.com.au/business - then contact the Board on 8842 3115 and make an appointment with a Business Development Officer to receive your free "Starting Your Own Business Kit" to help you get your dream started.

**PLANNING TO
START YOUR
OWN BUSINESS?**

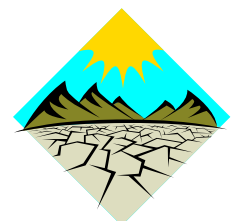
**COME IN TO
MNRDB FOR
FREE
INFORMATION
AND
ASSISTANCE**

Two more EC areas and three declared prima facie

A prima facie case has also been declared for the Mid North, Yorke Peninsula, and Clare, Light and Barossa meaning eligible farmers and small businesses can apply for interim income support for up to 6 months.

The Australian Government in April 2007 announced that Exceptional Circumstances (EC) drought assistance has been declared for the areas of Fleurieu Peninsula and River Murray Corridor. Please note that the paperwork for the two new EC areas is currently being

finalised by the Australian and South Australian Governments. Eligible farmers and agriculture-dependent small businesses in these areas will be able to apply for income support and interest rate subsidies up to 31st March 2009.



“Fostering Economic Development in our Region”

MID NORTH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD INC

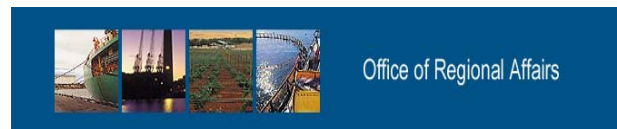
2/17 Lennon Street
Clare SA 5453
Phone: 08 88423115
Fax: 08 88421275
E-mail: info@mnrdb.com.au

The Mid North Regional Development Board Inc. (MNRDB) is funded by the South Australian Government through the Office of Regional Affairs in partnership with the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council, Northern Areas Council and Regional Council of Goyder.

The Board is structured as an independent incorporated body with its own Board of Directors and operates at a strategic level to facilitate economic development and deliver enhanced employment opportunities for the region’s rural and tourism based economy.

The Board’s vision for economic development is founded on building an economy which is diverse, sustainable and appropriate for the region. Board activities focus on delivering economic and social benefit to the region by increasing the profile of the Mid North and enhancing the regions national competitiveness to provide ongoing employment opportunities for the region’s rural community.

We’re on the web.
www.mnrdb.com.au



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