

# Small Business Connect

December 2022

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## 10 years to the Games, and 10 years after – Brisbane Legacy Plan



Incredible things will happen because Brisbane is hosting the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Hosting Brisbane 2032 is an opportunity to deliver lasting benefits to Queensland and Australia over the next 20 years – [10 years to the Games and 10 years after](#).

And we want your help to develop the Brisbane 2032 Legacy Plan.

The Brisbane 2032 Legacy Plan will define how we take advantage of the Olympic and Paralympic Games over a 10+10+ year period to drive opportunities that ensure lasting benefits before, during and after the Games.

All Australians can have their say by completing the [Brisbane 2032 Legacy Plan hopes and dreams survey](#). The survey closes on 3 March 2023.

You can also apply to attend the [Brisbane 2032 Legacy Forum](#) via the survey. On 22 March 2023, ideas gathered from the survey will be shared at the Brisbane 2032 Legacy Forum. Applications to attend the forum via the survey will close on Monday 20 February 2023.

To get involved visit [www.qld.gov.au/about/brisbane2032](http://www.qld.gov.au/about/brisbane2032)

## Queensland Small Business Commissioner permanently appointed



Ms Dominique Lamb has been appointed as Queensland's permanent Small Business Commissioner.

Ms Lamb is the former CEO of the National Retail Association (NRA) and brings to the Commissioner role extensive experience working with the small business sector across a wide range of policy areas, including economic recovery and industrial relations.

Ms Lamb will commence as the Queensland Small Business Commissioner on 23 December 2022.

As Queensland Small Business Commissioner, Ms Lamb and her office will continue to expand the Small Business Friendly Councils program

and provide small businesses with a dedicated, central point of contact to access information, support and advice, including assistance with disputes involving a retail tenancy, small business lease or small business franchise.

To learn more about the services provided by the Queensland Small Business Commissioner visit [www.business.qld.gov.au/qsbc](http://www.business.qld.gov.au/qsbc).

## How did we go? Take our small business survey



As we continue to support small businesses by delivering a range of initiatives and programs, your feedback is important. In partnership with Proof Research, we're undertaking market research on a recent campaign we launched.

The survey is for small businesses in Queensland. It is completely confidential, should take around 10 minutes to complete and your responses are anonymous. Responses will close on 6 January 2023.

To start the survey, click [here](#).

We appreciate your assistance in helping shape the future of our campaigns and initiatives, to ensure we continually cater to the evolving needs of Queensland small business owners.

## Business Queensland – a new year, new business venture?

The new year is just around the corner. If you or someone you know is looking at starting a new business venture then take some time to check out the great resources on [Business Queensland](#), such as the [Business Readiness Health Check](#)



Completing the multiple-choice questions in the Business Readiness Health Check allows users to assess the strengths and weaknesses of your business approach and identify opportunities to improve your business start-up plans and processes.

It will also highlight key areas where you may wish to improve and suggest practical resources to help you achieve a successful launch of your new business. Give it a go today.

Visit Business Queensland [Starting a business](#)

to find other refreshed content, such as:

- [Preparing to be a business owner](#)
- [Exploring and researching your business idea](#)
- [Starting a home business](#)
- [Buying a business](#)

Keep your business know-how current by visiting [Business Queensland](#) regularly and utilise the fantastic tools such as templates, planning tools, step-by-step guides, self-assessments, checklists and more!

## Ask a Mentor – business finance essentials



Each month we feature information and tips from Mentoring for Growth (M4G) mentors. In this edition we are looking at business finance essentials and why it is so important for the success of your business.

### Top tips from Canio Muscillo – M4G Mentor since 2019

1. Have the right software.
2. Try to pay bills as they are due.
3. Chase your debtors.

### Top tips from Natalie Kidcaff – M4G Mentor since 2021

Keeping an updated cashflow forecast, including knowing what your monthly expenses are, and when they are expected to be paid will help to understand your cash flow movements. It will also help you understand when you might require further capital contributions or loans to grow your business. By spending the time early in your business to learn about managing your cashflow, will provide the foundations you require to help you make business decisions when you are growing or scaling your business.

Check out all the M4G mentor tips and info [here](#).

## Event engineers jobs match



Queensland is engineering new ways to fill jobs in high demand.

A Queensland Global Engineering Talent networking event was held in Brisbane this month (December 2022), aimed at connecting migrant engineers looking for work with engineering employers.

Co-hosted by Engineers Australia and Consult Australia, the event was an opportunity for candidates, employers and service providers to connect and understand the jobs and skills available.

Through the [Queensland Workforce Strategy](#), the Queensland Government is working with Engineers Australia and Consult Australia to harness the skills of the onshore migrant

workforce.

Several roundtables with industry, community and government stakeholders have been held to explore issues and opportunities available – with the recent networking event a great example of new approaches to matching good people to good jobs.

[The Diverse Queensland Workforce program](#) can help connect migrants, refugees and international students with employers.

To connect and join the conversation visit our [LinkedIn Workforce Collaboration Hub](#).

## Support available to help you employ and retain staff



Are you thinking about hiring someone in the new year? You may be eligible for financial and additional support under the [Back to Work Program](#).

The Back to Work program is designed to give you the confidence to employ Queenslanders who have experienced a period of unemployment and help workers facing disadvantage in the labour market.

Two types of payments are available under the Back to Work Incentives Payment\* program when you employ a worker from one of the following target groups:

### 1. [Back to Work Support Payments](#) of up to \$15,000

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (minimum unemployment period of 8 weeks)
- people with disability (minimum unemployment period of 8 weeks)
- long-term unemployed people (minimum unemployment period of 52 weeks).

### 2. [Youth Boost Payments](#) of up to \$20,000

- young people aged 15-24 years (minimum unemployment period of 8 weeks)

The program is available to businesses throughout regional Queensland and in select areas of South East Queensland (SEQ). Approved Back to Work applicants can also access



additional support to help you develop a successful, long-term working relationship with your employee.

*\*Eligibility criteria apply.*

## Industry Workforce Advisors' network established



The Queensland Government has established nine [Industry Workforce Advisors](#) to work with employers across the state to find solutions to their workforce challenges.

Advisors have been contacted to 31 December 2025 across key industry sectors to help small and medium-sized employers tap into available government subsidies and other support.

Setting up this network is one of the actions from the [Good people. Good jobs: Queensland Workforce Strategy 2022-2032](#) and aims to help

communities and industries increase the workforce participation of under-represented groups.

Seeing industry and government working together to support smaller employers to attract new workers from different backgrounds and set them up with rewarding careers will benefit all parties.

## 'Drinking? Never drive' campaign launched



Over 20 per cent of fatalities on Queensland's roads are a result of drink driving and tragically, overall the number of lives lost is trending towards the highest seen in a decade.

A new campaign ['In your hands'](#) launched on 11 December, outlines the dangers and a range of consequences to consider when you drink and drive.

Product offerings such as 'Lose your licence lager', 'Job loss bitter', and 'Whip lash pale ale' demonstrate the devastating outcomes of drinking and driving and reminds everyone if you are 'Drinking? Never drive' to avoid serious consequences.

To view the campaign, visit [StreetSmarts website](#).

## Check on your loved ones this holiday season



While the festive period is a time to celebrate, it can also bring increased stress, financial pressures, and strain – and for those experiencing domestic and family violence, this can make it a time of increased risk.

Domestic and family violence is a pattern of abusive behaviours used to maintain power and control over another person and to create a

climate of fear, isolation, intimidation and humiliation. It can take many forms such as physical, financial, technology-based abuse, and social isolation.

Remember to check in on your friends, family and loved ones over the summer break. If you notice someone is a bit more withdrawn or hard to contact, or changes in their appearance or manner – check in and have a conversation. Your support can make a difference.

For more information on domestic and family violence and support options, visit [www.qld.gov.au/knowdfv](http://www.qld.gov.au/knowdfv).

Free and confidential support is available and services will continue to operate over the festive break and during summer holidays.

Contact [DVConnect](#) via:

- DVConnect Womensline: 1800 811 811 (24/7)
- DVConnect Mensline: 1800 600 636 (7 days, 9am to midnight)
- In an emergency, call Triple Zero (000).

## Key dates

### 2023 Queensland Reconciliation Awards open for nominations



Now is your chance to nominate for the [2023 Queensland Reconciliation Awards](#), with nominations open across five categories — business, community, education, health and wellbeing, and partnership.

Do you know an initiative or organisation who is going above and beyond their core business to foster reconciliation and pave the way for a better future?

Nominations close 5pm, Friday 3 February 2023 and the 2023 Queensland Reconciliation Award recipients will be announced at a ceremony during reconciliation week (27 May–3 June 2023).

To learn more visit [qld.gov.au/reconciliation](http://qld.gov.au/reconciliation).



### Celebrating Reconciliation grants – applications closing soon

Applications for the Queensland Government's [Celebrating Reconciliation Grants Program](#) for 2023 will close at midnight, Friday 23 December 2022.

The program will support up to 37 Queensland-based reconciliation events and activities held in or around National Reconciliation Week. Eligible organisations can apply for grants of up to \$3,000 (exclusive of GST) per event or activity.

Reconciliation Week (27 May–3 June 2023) celebrates and builds on respectful relationships

shared by Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous peoples.

To apply visit [www.qld.gov.au/recgrants](http://www.qld.gov.au/recgrants)

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### Nominate a Queensland Great!

Do you know a remarkable Queensland or Queensland institution in need of recognition for their significant dedication to the state? This is your chance to nominate them online for a [2023 Queensland Greats Award](#).

Nominations are open across three categories — Individual, Institution and Posthumous and will close 5.00pm, Friday 17 February 2023.

The 2023 Queensland Greats will be announced at a ceremony in Brisbane in June 2023.

For information about the awards and [how to make a nomination](#) visit [www.qld.gov.au/qldgreats](http://www.qld.gov.au/qldgreats).

## Resources



### Webinar – setting up and managing finances

Date: Monday 30 January 2023  
Time: 9.00am (AEST).

Setting up and managing business finances is essential to the success of any small business. Having a clear understanding of your numbers will enable you to make strong and informed decisions and in turn, will help grow your business.

Many small business owners often wonder “why isn’t there any money in the bank, as I know I am making a profit”? There is a big difference between cashflow and profit. Understanding these two concepts will quickly make any small business owner more successful.

Our free webinar will cover start-up costs, budgeting, managing cashflow, and tips and tricks around tax with Mentoring for Growth panellists [Canio Muscillo](#), [Ian Judson](#), [Tracey Rubens](#), and [Natalie Kidcaff](#).

Don’t miss out, [register here](#) today.

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[Queensland Tourism Industry Council](#) and [The University of Queensland](#) have partnered to deliver a suite of professional development courses tailored to the tourism and hospitality industry.

[Executive Education for Tourism courses](#) have been designed for tourism operators to help address challenges being faced by the industry, in both public and private sectors.

Facilitated by leading academics, the courses will help users to build resilient business models, practices, and strategies.

Visit [upcoming courses](#) to find out more.



End of year is a chance to slow down, but it's also a great opportunity to get ahead of the game in 2023 with g [Business Launchpad](#).

Including Business Launchpad as part of next year's planning, will make it just that little bit easier and faster for you to get on top of your compliance-related requirements. It covers regulatory information for all business-types, industries and locations and puts compliance information from local, state and federal governments into one place.

Give the [Business Launchpad](#) online tool a go today.

## Season's greetings from DESBT



As we edge closer to shutting down our computers for the Christmas, New Year and summer break, we want to wish all our partners in employment, small business and training a safe and happy festive season.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and delivering Small Business Connect news in 2023.

Please note the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training offices will be closed from Monday 26 December 2022 to Monday 2 January 2023 inclusive.

## Stay connected



In addition to this newsletter, you can receive the latest information from the Queensland and Australian Governments by visiting the [Business Queensland website](#). Follow us on social media on the [Business Queensland Facebook page](#).

For more information, visit  
[business.qld.gov.au](http://business.qld.gov.au) or call 1300 654 687



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