

## President's Message

January 2016

### North Stradbroke Island – Economic Transition Strategy

2016 has started well with buoyant Christmas sales and retailing. Let's hope this confidence continues throughout the year.

North Stradbroke Island is one of the brightest jewels in the crown of Redland City and indeed south east Queensland. Last month the State government introduced the North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability Bill with the objective to substantively phase out sand mining operations by 2019.

This has major ramifications for Stradbroke Island and the Redland's economy. All stakeholders are concerned the economic inputs and opportunities from mining are not only replaced but substantially increased.

The Government has developed a Draft North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy to:

- drive tourism
- expand education and training
- foster business development and growth

This transition phase is an exciting opportunity to create a vibrant, environmentally and culturally sensitive economy for residents and visitors.

The Government has pledged resources to assist the process. However it is equally important for the community to be engaged and to share a common vision to ensure Stradbroke becomes Australia's most desirable island community.

The Chamber is seeking inputs from businesses and the community to make a submission to the committee overseeing the Bill and Strategy. Please get in and have your say.

<https://haveyoursay.dsd.qld.gov.au/statedevelopment/nsi-economic-transition-strategy>

Garry Hargrave

President