



## President's Report

June 2020

With restrictions beginning to ease across the State and country, many are already thinking about the logistics of reopening our businesses. Some of the difficulties that are ahead of us include: how do we ensure our workplaces are Covid safe, how do we resupply our businesses with essential items, if we had to let staff go how do we recruit. Some will have significant cashflow issues to negotiate.

Council have announced their first round of stimulus, and they have grants available to small business and community organisations. Businesses are able to access funding of \$1,000 to seek professional advice. If you operate within Redland City, I encourage you to visit Council's website and, if you meet the eligibility criteria, submit your application.

The State Government have put together checklists and information for restaurants, bars, pubs and clubs to assist them in reopening their businesses in compliance with current Social Distancing and Hygiene regulations. There is also information on required training for your staff and Workplace Health & Safety. Visit: [www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/covid-19-restrictions/easing](http://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/covid-19-restrictions/easing) for more information.

Other sites that may be useful are SafeWork Australia who have developed guidelines and information across 23 industries and Restaurant and Catering Australia who have released a Covid-19 Best Practice Guidelines to provide guidance for food service businesses.

Finally, Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland (CCIQ) have put together free templates and guides for download. In addition, CCIQ offer free webinars on business topics ranging from Adapting, Business Management, E-Commerce, Small Business Selling and Communication.

If you are interested in upskilling, TAFE Queensland are offering free Micro-Credentials online training. More than 350 Redlands people have accessed these courses and they are still available via [www.tafeqld.edu.au/isolearn](http://www.tafeqld.edu.au/isolearn). Recently introduced courses include COVID Safe for Dining In and COVID Safe for Beauty and Nails.

Just as when restrictions were put in place, we understand as restrictions ease, a new array of challenges and information overload with set in. I encourage you to reach out to the Chamber and immerse yourself in the network where you will find support and encouragement. We are here to champion all Redlands businesses!

Yours in business,

Rebecca Young