

## 7.7. REGIONAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUND - FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

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| <b>REPORT AUTHOR</b> | Manager Community Services                          |
| <b>MANAGER</b>       | General Manager TC Jasper Corporate and Communities |
| <b>DEPARTMENT</b>    | Community Services                                  |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council endorse the recommendation of the Regional Arts Development Fund Advisory Committee to award \$5,000 to Port Douglas Artists Inc.**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received an application for funding under stage one (1) of the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) grant program from Port Douglas Artists Inc.

The RADF Advisory Committee met on 24 June 2025 to assess the application and have recommended that the project be funded.

This report is to endorse the decision of the committee.

### BACKGROUND

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a partnership between Arts Queensland and Council, aimed at supporting the development of arts and culture across the State.

RADF provides funding for projects that engage communities in creative activities, build capacity for local artists, and enhance cultural vibrancy. The program is a key driver in strengthening community connections through arts initiatives and promoting creative opportunities within the Douglas Shire.

### COMMENTS

Applications are required to articulate delivery against the RADF objectives and assessment criteria including quality, reach, impact, and viability within the local context, describing alignment to the identified arts and cultural priorities of Council.

The RADF Advisory Committee met on the 24 June 2025 to review an application from Port Douglas Artists Inc. The application named Call of the Running Tide; The Littoral Zone – Stage One, proposes to develop artistic responses from five (5) local artists and produce a short video documenting the artists and their approach to site specific art.

The RADF Advisory Committee recommended funding the project.

### PROPOSAL

That Council endorse the recommendation of the Regional Arts Development Fund Advisory Committee to award \$5,000 to Port Douglas Artists Inc.

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with Council's RADF program are allocated in the budget for the 2025-2026 financial year.

## RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is some risk of the failure to acquit the funds. Risk management procedures in relation to outstanding RADF outcome reports are in place. At times grantees may face circumstances beyond their control which impact on project timelines. Council officers support artists and organisations in such situations to achieve the original outcomes of awarded projects.

## SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

**Economic:** The RADF program supports arts and cultural activities that provide public value for the Douglas Shire community, builds local and cultural capacity, cultural innovation, and community pride.

**Environmental:** Nil

**Social:** Arts and culture activities offer a wide range of social benefits, including strengthening community bonds, promoting social inclusion, and fostering a sense of shared identity. They can also enhance social skills, improve mental and physical well-being, and contribute to social change.

## CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

### Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Initiatives:

#### Theme 1 - Liveability

To deliver community activities to promote safe, healthy, inclusive and socially engaged communities with an environmental conscious.

#### *1.2 - Encourage and grow creative opportunities across the arts.*

### Operational Plan 2025-2026 Actions:

Public Art & Placemaking - Support creative projects and initiatives that empower our communities to express their connection to place.

## COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

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|--------------------|--|
| <b>Advocate</b>    | Council makes representation on behalf of the community on important issues, funding opportunities, projects and programs. Council will use its influence to seek the best outcomes for the community.                     |
| <b>Facilitator</b> | Council often brings stakeholders together on important issues, projects or for service delivery. In this role, Council can act as a mediator, connector, collaborator or initiator.                                       |
| <b>Funder</b>      | Council often partly funds services, events or community organisations through grants, donations, subsidies and in-kind support. Council will apply robust governance to ensure that such funding is fair and appropriate. |

## CONSULTATION

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| <b>Internal:</b> | Councillor Workshop 15 July 2025     |
| <b>External:</b> | RADF Advisory Committee 24 June 2025 |

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil