

5.2. RADF COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENT

REPORT AUTHOR	Tim Ellis, Arts & Culture Officer
MANAGER	Lisa Golding, Acting Manager People and Community Services
DEPARTMENT	People and Community Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the appointment of new Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Committee member Sabine Hoeng to the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Committee, to serve a term of four years, with an option to stand down after two years.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 April 2020, Council endorsed the changes made to the RADF committee member numbers to include one member from Council and four other community members. In 2020, one current committee member resigned from the committee leaving a vacancy. This report recommends the appointment of a new RADF committee member from the community.

BACKGROUND

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a State Government and Douglas Shire Council partnership to support local arts and culture in the Shire. Taking into account community feedback from the DSC Arts Strategy 2017-21, RADF Committees are still considered appropriate for local RADF decision-making in our Shire. Under the original guidelines, the RADF Committee was to be a representative and informed group reflecting the diverse culture and geography of the Council area.

Since the initial appointment of Council's Committee RADF has undergone major changes with Councils now having the flexibility to tailor their RADF programs and decision-making processes to suit their local government areas, rather than having to adhere to guidelines prepared by Arts Queensland.

Douglas Shire Council established a RADF committee to generally oversee the RADF program in accordance with RADF guidelines. Committee members are to promote the program, evaluate applications and advise on arts and cultural matters in the Shire.

COMMENT

RADF Committee Members are appointed to serve for four (4) years, with the option to stand down after two (2) years, with the exception of the Councillor on the committee who may serve for the period of their elected office. The current RADF Committee comprises Cr Abigail Noli, Jill Chism, Perry Harrison and Lynda Irvine. The fifth committee member, Sandra Cruz, handed in her resignation in 2020 due to relocating away from the Shire. A public call-out for nominations to join the RADF committee in February 2021 led to one nomination being received.

PROPOSAL

That Council endorse the appointment of new Committee member Sabine Hoeng to the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Committee, to serve a term of four years, with an option to stand down after two years.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with running the RADF Program are provided for in the annual budget.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The RADF Committee will be provided with a Handbook and be required to sign a Code of Conduct. In addition, the following will be discussed at the RADF Committee Induction Meeting.

Providing Feedback:

It is important that the RADF Committee Assessment Panel maintains accurate records of assessment meetings so that Council can be accountable for the funding decisions made in relation to the use of public money.

Applicants have the right to request feedback on their grant applications, whether they were successful or not over the phone, in person or in writing. In order to do this, the Panel must have an agreed position as to why a grant applicant has been successful or not, based on the criteria of the RADF Program. This agreed position must be accurately recorded as they are subject to the Right to Information Act and the Judicial Review Act.

Resolving Disputes:

From time to time, the various stakeholders of Council's RADF Program, i.e. Council staff, RADF Committee, Councillors and the applicants, may disagree or dispute decisions made in relation to the program. Disputes over the management of the RADF Program are resolved locally. The LGAQ can recommend trained mediators to assist in resolving conflict between stakeholders.

Risk Management:

Each successful RADF applicant must acquit their application. In the interest of accountability, a Risk Management Strategy will assist in the acquittal of grant applications.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Supports economic growth in the arts industry and promotes placemaking opportunities for emerging artists and performers.

Environmental: Promotes eco-arts tourism and supports environmentally sustained projects.

Social: Promotes mental health and well-being with the Shire. Promoting and supporting tourism, arts and culture industries.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Initiatives:

Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

Douglas Shire Council embraces the diversity of our communities and values the contribution that all people make to the Shire. We recognise that it is a core strength of the region. We acknowledge our past so that it may guide us in the future. We recognise the wrongs done to our Indigenous community and we actively seek to reconcile so that we may all benefit from and enjoy our Shire. We acknowledge early European settlers who forged an agricultural base for our economy and we welcome all new arrivals as part of our broader community.

Goal 2 - *We will deliver programs and services that protect and enhance the liveability of our beautiful Shire.*

Goal 3 - *We will develop programs that promote health, well-being and safety in the community.*

Goal 4 - *We will promote arts and cultural programs and events that bring vibrancy to the community and compliment the tourist experience.*

Theme 4 - Inclusive Engagement, Planning and Partnerships

In delivering for our communities, economy and environment, Douglas Shire will ensure open and transparent engagement and communication. We will develop robust strategic plans and we will partner with our community and key stakeholders.

Goal 1 - *We will implement transparent decision making through inclusive community engagement and communication.*

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:

Funder	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

Internal: Chief Executive Officer and Manager People and Community Services

External: Previous RADF Committee, Arts and Cultural Networks, Community members, previous RADF recipients

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. RADF Committee Nomination - Sabine Hoeng - Mar 2021 [**5.2.1** - 16 pages]

The attachment to this report has been removed as it contains personal information