

5.6. AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2022

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DEPARTMENT	People and Community Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **That Council notes and endorses the Australia Day Awards awarded recipients in line with the Douglas Shire Australia Day Award Guidelines.**
2. **Delegates authority under Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to finalise any minor amendments in relation to administering the Australia Day Awards Ceremony for 2021.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An integral part of Australia Day celebrations are local Australia Day awards held throughout the Country, recognising outstanding achievement and excellence in our communities.

Douglas Shire Council's Australia Day Award Ceremony will be held Wednesday January 26, 2022, commencing at 10am at the Port Douglas Community Hall.

BACKGROUND

Douglas Shire Council's Australia Day Award categories are:

Citizen of the Year recognising outstanding members of the community for their personal endeavours, achievements and community involvement.

Young Citizen of the Year (Aged 25 years or under at 26 January 2022) recognising young citizens for their personal endeavours, achievements and community involvement.

Volunteer of the Year recognising members of the community of any age making significant and lasting contributions to the social, recreational, environmental and economic quality of life in the community through their endeavours on behalf of individuals, organisations, charities, service groups, clubs, churches, sporting groups, health or youth.

Arts and Cultural Award recognises members of the community of any age making significant and lasting contributions to arts and culture in the community.

Environmental Achievement Award recognises members of the community of any age making significant and lasting contributions to the environment.

Senior Sports Award recognises sports people for their personal endeavours and achievements in their sporting code.

Junior Sports Award (Aged 18 years or under at 26 January 2022) recognises young sports people for their personal endeavours and achievements in their sporting code.

To be eligible for a Douglas Shire Council Australia Day Award, nominees must be Australian citizens living in the Douglas Shire Council local government area who have not

been a previous recipient of an Australia Day Award in the same category, an elected representative e.g. MP, Councillor or a recipient of Australia and Imperial Honours.

Australia Day Award nominations opened on the 14 September 2021 and closed at 4.30pm on Friday the 19 November 2021 and were promoted via:

General:

- Media Release to all media
- Front page of Council Newsletter
- Included multiple times in Council's fortnightly E-Newsletter
- Included on Council's Digital Noticeboards
- Distributed via Community Agency Network
- Online form viewed 623 times

Social media:

Advertising:

- \$200 on targeted advertising
- 25 October 2021 to 1 November 2021
- 22,532 people reached.
- 204 link clicks

Councillor Videos:

- 4 videos published - 5508 people reached
- 3 x Facebook posts - 5,200 people reached

Newsport:

- Advertising \$450 for one week (20-27 September 2021)
- Banner & Medium Box
- Editorial

Nomination forms were available on Council's website, and on request from the Mossman's Administration Frontline.

Nineteen people were nominated Across 7 categories.

The Australia Day Awards will be held at Port Douglas Community Hall on Wednesday the 26 January 2022 in conjunction with a Citizenship Ceremony. Each eligible award nominee will be acknowledged and presented with a nomination certificate and a gift from the council nursery, at the ceremony.

Each award recipient will be presented with a framed certificate and engraved medallion.

COMMENTS

The nomination form specified all nominees will be contacted in the first instance to confirm their acceptance of their nomination before proceeding with assessment of the nominations.

In addition to confirming acceptance, eligibility was also checked with each nominee, and their parent / carer, for nominees under 18 years of age.

PROPOSAL

That Council notes and endorses the Australia Day Awards awarded recipients in line with the Douglas Shire Australia Day Award Guidelines.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The Australia Day Awards ceremony is budgeted for within the People and Community Services 2021-22 operational allocation.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

To avoid the risk of printing certificates and engraving medallions for recipients not wanting to accept their nomination or award, the nomination form stipulated all nominees will be contacted in the first instance to confirm acceptance of their nomination before proceeding with assessment of the nominations.

Council officers also checked with each nominee, and parent/caregiver of nominees under 18 years of age, as to whether the nominees are eligible to be nominated and receive an Australia Day Award.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Nil

Environmental: Nil

Social: Celebration of individual and group's accomplishments through the Australia Day Awards is integral part to Council's role and commitment to celebrate and acknowledge achievements in the Douglas Shire.

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 1 - *We will celebrate the diversity of our community and ensure that all infrastructure, programs, and services are underpinned with inclusiveness and accessibility.*

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

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:

Advocate 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.

CONSULTATION

Internal: Councillors.

External: Council's call for nominations for the Australia Day Awards was a form of engagement with the community. Referee details have been included on nominations and may be contacted if required. Council officers consulted all nominees on their eligibility and acceptance of award nominations prior to Councillors considering the nominations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council's call for nominations for the Australia Day Awards was a form of engagement with the community. Referee details have been included on nominations and may be contacted if required. Council officers consulted all nominees on their eligibility and acceptance of award nominations prior to Councillors considering the nominations.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil