

# SunPlan - Planning in Paradise

Sunshine Coast Planner's Newsletter  
August 2007

## CPD Event a SUCCESS!!

The PIA Sunshine Coast Branch (eventually) held its CPD event on Thursday 16 August with a record crowd of more than 90 people. The event was hosted by John Winsbury (Caloundra City Council) with key speakers including Mayor Bob Abbot (Noosa Council), Debra Robinson (Juniper Developments) and Lindsay Enright (Office of Urban Management) discussing the future planning of the Sunshine Coast.

*Refer over page for a more details.*



## From The President ..

Well the last few months have been absolute chaos for me on both a professional and personal basis. Besides being a bridesmaid 3 times this year, having to organise the CPD event twice, recently changing jobs (from DA at Noosa Council to Strategic Planning in Caloundra City Council), I am heading to the I International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) Conference in Belgium in September to escape the chaos and have an extended holiday overseas.

I hope you all enjoyed the recent CPD event. Although it had to be rescheduled, the timing couldn't have been better following the announcement of Council amalgamations. The notable speakers attracted a great turn out with heated debate. I would like to thank HRP for their valued sponsorship and Rebecca Britton and my team of helpers for their assistance in organising this event. Congratulations to Michael Kucera (Cooloolooloo Shire Council) for winning the lucky door prize.

I look forward to seeing you all at AGM & Xmas Party on Friday 30 November at Zachary's Mooloolaba.

If you have any ideas for the committee or would like to assist in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Fiona Fullarton

## Young Planners Get Connected

- **Maroochy Shire Council (30 May 2007)** – Tiffany Lacey (National PIA Young Planner Rep) and Fiona Fullarton (President PIA Sunshine Coast Branch) were invited by Cheryl Button-Elsmore to speak to the young planners of Maroochy Shire Council (DA & Strategic Planning) about the role of the QLD Young Planner Group and the PIA Sunshine Coast Branch. The presentation provided valuable information about professional development and networking opportunities available to young planners working on the Sunshine Coast. If you are interested in having a similar presentation at your workplace please contact Fiona Fullarton on 041 898 4187.
- **University of the Sunshine Coast – USC (14 June 2007)** – A BBQ was held for the planning students hosted by Paul Beutel (QLD Rep for National Young Planner Group NYPG) and Kim Nelson (Convenor Qld Young Planner Group QYPG). Key topics of discussion included:-
  - current issues in planning and the diverse opportunities for young planners within the planning profession;
  - the improved prospects/ability to study planning on the Sunshine Coast and the practical and credible subject matter of the USC course;
  - steadily increasing recognition of the USC planning course through participation and knowledge sharing with local firms (eg Stocklands, Dillon Folker Stephens) and local Councils;
  - benefits of membership to PIA such as information on up and coming events and conferences (ie QLD State conference in Townsville).Thanks to Claudia Baldwin (USC lecturer) and Jason Hague for organising this event. The BBQ was such a success, it is intended that they be held at the end of each semester (ie 2 per year).

## CPP Courses

- **Economics of Development (19-20 April 2007)** – Cancelled, lack no's.
- **Project management (19-20 July 2007)** – Cancelled, lack of no's.
- **Professional Ethics (15-16 November 2007)** – book by 25 October 2007. Contact Chifley Business School on (03) 9695 8910 or [adenyer@chifley.edu.au](mailto:adenyer@chifley.edu.au).

PIA are trying to run these events in the regions so people don't have to travel to the capital city's, but 10-15 people are required to make them viable. Feedback is that you do need to book in advance and these courses are very interactive. You don't need to be a PIA member to attend. 'In-house' delivery of CPP modules can also be organised, if an individual employer (or several collaborating) is interested in hosting a course at their own venue. It costs \$7000 plus the presenter's costs, so again 10 and 15 people are required to make it viable.

### Our Web Site

[www.paulsummersplanning.com.au/ClientPage\\_files/SunPlan/Newsletter.htm](http://www.paulsummersplanning.com.au/ClientPage_files/SunPlan/Newsletter.htm)

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# CPD Event...

After an unfortunate postponement, the rescheduled CPD Seminar 'Paradise or Paradise Lost?' took place at Novotel Twin Waters on 16th August. A timely issue following Council amalgamations, speakers from three very different backgrounds provided their perspective on where the Sunshine Coast is headed and the challenges that are likely to be part of the journey.



Lindsay Enright, Executive Director of the Office of Urban Management, saw the need to meet the highest growth in Australia as very 'real' – but that the challenge was to make it sustainable.

Debra Robinson, Development Manager with Juniper Development Group, echoed Lindsay's sentiment that it was important that the things that had attracted us all to the Sunshine Coast were not destroyed and that development should *not* happen at all costs. She saw the overarching issue as the broader concept of managing growth, with the region as a whole already playing catch-up.

Bob Abbott, Mayor of Noosa Council, with his "ready wit and salty sense of humour", delivered a strong message to planners present that it was up to us to challenge the values we brought with us to the region. He considered a clear community vision and the leadership to achieve it with *passion* as the difference between what the Sunshine Coast is now and what it will be in 20 years.

John Winsbury, Manager Strategic Planning and Policy Unit at Caloundra City Council then facilitated a fiery question and answer session – with the Noosans challenging the conventional wisdom that the Sunshine Coast must continue to accept growth!



The conclusion – with well planned, sustainable growth it's not too late for the Sunshine Coast – but if and when do you say enough is enough?

Sharon Briggs

# Up Coming Branch Events

## AGM & Xmas Party - Friday 30 November 2007

3-5pm AGM & 5pm-late Xmas Party

Zachary's Mooloolaba

\$10 cost at the door pizza & drink on arrival

## Expert Witness Workshop – February 2008

The one day workshop will involve participating or critiquing a court room role-play with experts in the field. We are currently seeking participants with applications closing 27 September 2007.

For more details contact Cameron Adams at [cameron@schomplan.com.au](mailto:cameron@schomplan.com.au) or 5444 1888.

And the **LUCKY DOOR PRIZE** goes to **MICHAEL KUCERA** from Cooloola Shire Council presented by **FIONA FULLARTON** from Caloundra City Council and Sunshine Coast Branch President. RIGHT

A great time was had by all!  
BELOW



# Survey Winner!!

In February, the PIA Sunshine Coast Branch Committee released a survey seeking input from planners across the Sunshine Coast from Caboolture to Cooloola for possible topics and functions. We received a total of 17 responses.

The key findings included:-

- most people wanted to gain professional development and networking opportunities from the PIA Sunshine Coast Branch;
- most people wanted after work events;
- most people wanted events focused on planning issues relevant to the Sunshine Coast, legislation changes and regional planning;
- most people preferred presentation style events;
- most people would support joint events with other professional organisations;
- most people preferred the events to be held in Maroochydore.

The **WINNER** of the bottle of wine for completing the survey was **Michael Hopkins** from Investa Property Group.