

## **First Nations Tourism Action Plan for Tropical North Queensland – Consultant Scope of Works**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council developed the Queensland First Nations Tourism Plan through broad industry and stakeholder consultations across the State. The State-wide plan provides the framework for strong futures for indigenous tourism in Queensland.

The Tropical North Queensland Indigenous Experiences Cluster Group, a group of proactive indigenous and non-indigenous tourism operators and stakeholders, identified the need to build on the excellent work of the State Plan to create a region specific First Nations Tourism Action Plan for Tropical North Queensland (the Plan).

A Steering Committee has been formed to oversee the development and implementation of the Plan and the Steering Committee is calling for proposals from suitably qualified consultants to develop the plan in consultation with Indigenous peoples, the industry, and key stakeholders.

This project has been made possible through the generous support of the Queensland Government through the Year of Indigenous Tourism program.

### **PROJECT AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The aim of developing a First Nations Tourism Action Plan for Tropical North Queensland includes objectives to:

1. **Educate the industry** and key stakeholders of their obligations to respect Country and culture including understanding the stories of place, and to promote sustainable tourism on Country;
2. Set a **clear vision and establish targets** for the development and growth of culturally appropriate Indigenous tourism in the Tropical North Queensland tourism region;
3. Establish **stronger links between the industry and key stakeholders** at local, regional and State levels to ensure the region's aspirations are considered as the sector evolves;
4. Identify the **priority action areas and projects** needed to build on the success of the region's established indigenous tourism experiences; and
5. **Map the way forward** from the current situation towards the vision, including the identification of key milestones and enablers of success.

On completion of the Plan, the Project Steering Committee in partnership with the established TNQ Indigenous Experiences Cluster Group will establish an implementation framework with partners organisations. This should be considered in mapping the way forward, and developed in consultation with the Cluster and the Project Steering Committee.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The Guiding Principles for the Plan and the group have been adapted from the 2012 Six Larrakia Declaration Principles which are set out in the Queensland First Nations Tourism Plan:

1. Respect for customary law and lore, land and water, traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and cultural heritage will underpin all tourism decisions.
2. Indigenous culture and the land and waters on which it is based, will be protected, and promoted through well-managed tourism practices and appropriate interpretation.
3. Indigenous peoples will determine the extent and nature and organizational arrangements for their participation in tourism and governments and multilateral agencies will support the empowerment of Indigenous people.
4. The Plan will be Indigenous and industry-led and which, in partnership, have a duty to consult and accommodate Indigenous peoples before undertaking decisions on public policy and programs designed to foster the development of Indigenous tourism.
5. The products and experiences promoted by the tourism industry will respect Indigenous intellectual property rights, cultures and traditional practices, the need for sustainable and equitable business partnerships and the proper care of the environment and communities that support them.
6. That equitable partnerships between the tourism industry and Indigenous people will include the sharing of cultural awareness and skills development which support the well-being of communities and enable enhancement of individual livelihoods.

## **PROJECT GOVERNANCE**

The development of the Plan will be overseen by the First Nations Tourism Action Plan for Tropical North Queensland Steering Committee (the group), a short-term working and consultative group. The objective of the group is to guide and shape the development and implementation of the Plan. The group is expected to meet on at least five (5) occasions throughout the development of the Plan to ensure its consultation process and content meets the brief.

The group is representative of the First Nations Tourism Sector of Tropical North Queensland extending from Cardwell to the Torres Strait and west to the NT border. The group is supported by Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ) staff and will guide the appointed consultant in the preparation of the Plan and its implementation framework.

TTNQ acts as secretariat for the development of the Plan and continues to provide administrative support to the TNQ Indigenous Experiences Cluster Group. The TNQ Indigenous Experiences Cluster Group was formed by a collective of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned and operated businesses and organisations, with the support of TTNQ, to encourage co-operation and the sharing of information and experiences around Indigenous and non-Indigenous tourism business and culturally appropriate visitor experiences. The TNQ Indigenous Experiences Cluster Group has nominated three persons to this group. The Cluster will be a primary point of contact for the consultant and meets monthly.

The appointed consultant/s will facilitate the consultation process and draft the Plan in consultation with the Steering Committee.

#### **DELIVERABLES**

- A clear project plan including a consultation program;
- A review of existing plans and strategies to ensure that work done to date is acknowledged and built on;
- A Discussion Paper to guide the stakeholder engagement, that builds on the work of QTIC in the State Plan as well as providing linkages to other local, regional, State and key national level strategic documents;
- A consultation program with industry and key stakeholders (including indigenous networks) to be approved by the Steering Committee. Consultation is not expected with each and every community in the region, but rather through established industry and community networks;
- A draft Action Plan for approval by the Steering Committee; and
- An approved final Action Plan including an implementation plan and reference to the implementation framework.

#### **BUDGET AND TIMELINE**

A budget of \$80,000 has been allocated to the project with delivery of the final report within 5 months, recognising the challenges of consulting in December and early January that work could be completed as early as possible in 2022.

#### **SUBMISSIONS**

Proposals are to be submitted by email to TTNQ's CEO Mark Olsen, on [mark.olsen@ttnq.org.au](mailto:mark.olsen@ttnq.org.au) on or before Wednesday September 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

If you have any questions please contact Mark on 0418 773 806.