

## **\$10B GROWTH OPPORTUNITY FOR TOowoomba & SURAT BASIN BY 2030**

The potential for up to \$10 billion in growth and significant employment expansion by 2030 has been recognised for the Toowoomba and Surat Basin region, in a Global Positioning Strategy launched by the Regional Australia Institute (RAI) today.

In partnership with Australia Pacific LNG (APLNG), QGC Ltd (QGC) and Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise, the RAI project will provide local leaders with:

- an assessment of the 'Future Factors' that will drive development in the region;
- a set of simple scenarios for the future of the region which capture the scale and nature of potential change; and
- a framework to empower local leaders to decide and act upon priority areas of collaboration and engagement.

Local leaders, businesses, organisations and the project partners joined the RAI in launching the project following today's Regional Queensland Showcase.

"While the outlook is positive for Toowoomba, no region can assume their potential is locked in," said the CEO of the RAI, Su McCluskey.

"This project aims to ensure the Toowoomba and Surat Basin region is positioned to push the boundaries of its potential over the next 5 - 10 years and capitalise on the economic drivers in the region," she concluded.

The first stage of the project will kick off next month, working to identify and explore the 'Future Factors' for the region as a whole. The project will also involve significant 'on-the-ground' consultation with local leaders in Toowoomba, and is expected to reach its 'Action' phase by October 2015.

The project will enable local leaders in the Toowoomba and Surat Basin region to establish practical, collaborative initiatives that can achieve positive change and drive a prosperous future for the region.

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### **About the Regional Australia Institute**

The Regional Australia Institute (RAI) is an independent policy think tank and research organisation. It's the vital link between research, policy and implementation. The RAI advocates for change to build a stronger economy and better quality of life in regional Australia – for the benefit of all Australians. For more information on the RAI go to [www.regionalaustralia.org.au](http://www.regionalaustralia.org.au)

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