



## TCICA 2019 Achievements

TCICA Members focussed on areas of strategic importance throughout 2019 and into 2020, achieving many positive outcomes including a commitment by the Commonwealth to release much needed housing funds in partnership with the State.

Just some of the activities of TCICA during 2019 included:

- ❖ **Four two-day TCICA meetings** in Cairns, plus an Annual General Meeting, with focussed and ongoing discussion on major issues such as Indigenous housing, the *Local Thriving Communities* initiative, 'Belcarra' legislation, disaster recovery, infrastructure and roads funding including the Cape York Regional Package, the expiry of key provisions in the *Native Title Act*, climate change, and health and hospital services in the region.
- ❖ **Producing a Federal Election Priorities document** in the lead up to the May federal election to underpin advocacy efforts.
- ❖ **TCICA's first coordinated advocacy visit to Canberra** in November to meet with a range of senior Government ministers including Ministers Wyatt, Coulton, Fletcher, and Canavan, and key shadow ministers, resulting in a number of commitments including the release of \$105 million in funding for new Indigenous housing.
- ❖ **The coordination of an Indigenous Local Government Disaster Resilience and Recovery Planning Forum**, funded under the Queensland Disaster Resilience Fund.
- ❖ **The development of a Cape, Torres and Gulf Opportunities Plan**, funded by the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDMIP). The Opportunities Plan sets out a long term vision for sustainable growth and focusses on five overarching regional development objectives. The plan forms a basis for discussion on a regional deal or similar tripartite-type agreement that commits all levels of government to an agreed pathway for economic and social development, balanced alongside the need to protect our outstanding cultural and environmental assets.
- ❖ **Participation in public inquiries** such as the *Inquiry into a sustainable Queensland intrastate shipping industry*, *Inquiry into the Opportunities and Challenges of the Engagement of Traditional Owners in the Economic Development of Northern Australia*, and *Inquiry into the effectiveness of the Australian Government's Northern Australia agenda*.

- ❖ **Submissions** on the Local Fare Scheme and Regional Transport Plans, resulting in a further commitment of two years to the Local Fare Scheme, and actions to develop a regional freight plan and investigate freight and passenger transport options to help address the cost of living, and improve access to basic goods and services for the more remote parts of the region.

TCICA has played a key role in identifying key issues impacting our region that we can and should influence, as well as facilitating the sharing of resources and information, and building effective partnerships with state and federal ministers, Members of Parliament and government agencies.

We have become a real force for change; we know that our strength is in collaboration and that by working together we will achieve greater outcomes for our region.