

Mayor's Message



It has been another successful week with funding announcements and celebrations happening across South Gippsland. In particular we celebrated Round Two of the Community Grants Program at an awards night on Wednesday. Congratulations are in order for our 21 successful applicants who were awarded a total of \$109, 633 for their nominated projects.

The Community Grants Program is a highlight for Council each and every year as it's rewarding to see local projects supported. The funding this year will contribute to projects with a total value of approximately \$595,000. The projects span from equipment to development plans and events; all of which make a positive contribution to the region.

The pool of applicants was highly competitive again this year so everyone should be very proud of their efforts and commitment to South Gippsland. It is always fulfilling to see our community working hard to ensure our region is thriving and contributing their creative ideas and solutions. Council is looking forward to hearing from our successful community groups about how the projects progress so we can celebrate their success.

One of the community grant recipients, the Foster Art, Music and Drama Association was also successful in receiving additional funding from the Victorian Government for retractable seating at the Foster Community Theatre. The Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Jaala Pulford announced their \$50,000 contribution to help create a more flexible space that can accommodate a broader range of activities. It is fantastic to have our community recognised and these opportunities given to our hard working volunteers and groups.

For those of you who might have a project eligible for the program now is the time to apply as Round One of the 2018/19 Community Grants Program is open until 31 August. An online application and the Grants Guidelines are available at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

Best of luck to our successful applicants for their projects and to those applying for our next round of funding!

Cr Lorraine Brunt
Mayor