

# RAPAD BOARD COMMUNIQUE

THIRD QUARTER 2024 | 1 JUL - 30 SEP



***A united organisation,  
with a powerful voice for  
our region and capacity to  
deliver initiatives that shape  
and create a prosperous  
future for the RAPAD region  
of Outback Queensland.***

## **Objects of RAPAD**

The objects for which the Company is established are:

- (a) to support, facilitate, promote and encourage the community, environmental and economic development of the region,
- (b) to formulate, develop, facilitate, maintain and implement, or cause to be implemented, strategies, policies and plans relating to the objects in Rule 1.5(a),
- (c) to advocate to, consult with, and advise, relevant State and Federal ministers and government agencies on matters of regional concern, and on the priorities of such matters and the means to ensure effective co-ordination and implementation of the policies, activities and programs of those State and Federal agencies, and
- (d) to facilitate, support, implement, or cause to be implemented, collaborative regional discussion and associated desired outcomes amongst, but not limited to, members.

Source: RAPAD constitution



## RAPAD BOARD

Our Communiques provide an overview of RAPAD Board meetings.



**Cr Rob Chandler**  
Mayor, Barcaldine Regional Council



**Cr Sally O'Neil**  
Mayor, Barcoo Shire Council



**Cr Andrew Martin**  
Mayor, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council



**Cr Rick Britton**  
Mayor, Boulia Shire Council



**Cr Francis Murray**  
Mayor, Diamantina Shire Council



**Cr Tony Rayner**  
Mayor, Longreach Regional Council



**Cr Cathy White**  
Mayor, Winton Shire Council



**David Arnold**  
CEO, RAPAD

## MEETINGS & ATTENDANCE

Three meetings were held during this quarter, two virtual on 5 July and 2 August, and a face-to-face on 27-28 August in Longreach.

Directors' attendances and apologies for the meetings are in the table on the right.

	5 July	2 Aug	27-28 Aug
Cr Rayner	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cr Martin	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cr Britton	Yes	No	Yes
Cr O'Neil	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cr Chandler	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cr White	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cr Murray	Yes	Yes	Yes

## REGIONAL GROUPS

The Longreach meeting was preceded by the quarterly meetings of the RAPAD Regional Water and Sewerage Alliance, the Outback Regional Roads and Transport Group and the Central West Regional Pest Management Group.

## GUESTS & PRESENTERS

Meetings were also attended by council CEOs and various council member representatives. Guests and speakers at the meetings included:

- Duncan Taylor – Chair, Country Universities Centres,
- A/Minister Ali King MP – Assistant Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works (virtual),
- Anne Leahy MP, Member for Warrego,
- Juanita Rechici – Translink,
- Joshua Dyke – Local Government Association of Queensland,
- John O'Brien and Joseph O'Brien – VisIR,
- Nick Weinart, Phil Bourke, Greg Smyth – Department of Environment, Science and Innovation,
- Alison Summerville and James Everet – Queensland Boulder Opal Association,
- Shaun Ferris – Deputy Director-General, Department of Resources,
- Gillian Naylor and Ross Eddington – Department of Resources,
- Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma and John Ritchie - Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water,
- Gavin Farry and Rachel Bock – Western Queensland Primary Health Network (WQPHN),
- Anthony West and Daniel Prosser – Central West Hospital and Health Service,
- Kim McConnie and Emma Vidgen – Tourism and Events Queensland, and
- Denise Brown and Kelly Hensley – Outback Queensland Tourism Association.



## GENERAL BUSINESS

As a part of responsible governance and business across all meetings, the Board received general YTD operating financial statements from RAPAD and RAPAD Skilling, noting there were no extraordinary operational or strategic budget matters to report.

The Board also:

- Noted the update on the recent RFCNSQ PMC meeting, noting there are no adverse risk matters to report to the Board regarding RFCNSQ,
- Endorsed the draft RAPAD Power Grid Head of Agreement,
- Endorsed the QDAF RAPAD sticky florestina contract,

- Endorsed the QDAF RAPAD Farm Business Resilience Program contact,
- Endorsed the Sweetwater Economic Development MoU,
- Endorsed the regions priority projects under the North Qld Resilience Program,
- Noted the USA Mission Final Report – published on both the RAPAD and RAPAD Power Grid websites.
- Conducted a ‘check in’, which was facilitated by the Chair, to discuss the new Boards views and feedback on both their performance and that of the operations given it was six months into the term of the new Board.

## RAPAD PROJECT & STAKEHOLDER UPDATES

### Georgina Diamantina Water Planning

At the Longreach meeting, Ingrid Fomiatti Minnesma and John Ritchie from the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW) provided an update on the consultation process and information gathered to date.

Ingrid advised of her or the department’s feedback on several queries of the Board, and advised of key themes raised from that consultation to date:

- Overall, the sentiment in the community is that not much needs to change, the existing Plan is working well and there is broad support for water to remain flowing freely,
- DRDMW will work with councils around water for town water supply,
- There was a strong focus on the river being the lifeblood – and everyone in the catchment being dependent on it,
- While some landholders at the top of the catchment would like some more water – most people indicated there is a concern with taking additional water out of rivers as they dry floods are very important downstream,
- There was support for establishing an Indigenous reserve – this will be a key matter to resolve,
- There is no support to move to allocations, or trading,
- There was support for how and what water is currently regulated and request not to change things too much,
- There was interest in the science and monitoring,
- Climate change and climate change resilience is of interest throughout the community,
- Bringing in the underground water that is currently regulated under the regulation was broadly supported on the basis it would make it easier to find the information and there are no changes made,
- Broad support to update outcomes to include First Nations people outcomes and review ecological social economic outcomes.



**RAPAD Board of Directors August 2024:** L-R, Cr Andrew Martin - Mayor Blackall-Tambo Regional Council. Cr Rick Britton - Mayor Boulia Shire Council, Cr Francis Murray - Mayor Diamantina Shire Council, Cr Sally O’Neil - Mayor Barcoo Shire Council, Cr Tony Rayner - Mayor Longreach Regional Council, Cr Cathy White - Mayor Winton Shire Council and Cr Rob Chandler - Mayor Barcaldine Regional Council,

## Energy Projects



## RAPAD Power Grid

- RAPAD Deputy CEO, Morgan Gronold, and Cr Tony Rayner met with the Director-General Energy and Climate Change, Paul Martyn, following the recent tours of Texas. In addition, RAPAD's proposal for hosting a community forum was successful in securing funding. This enabled RAPAD to host the CWQ Energy and Economic Futures Forum.
- The date and location for the CWQ Energy and Economic Futures Forum was confirmed as 27 September in Barcaldine.
- More information on the forum, including the key presentation slide deck, is published at: [www.rapadpowergrid.com.au/energy-and-economic-futures-2024](http://www.rapadpowergrid.com.au/energy-and-economic-futures-2024)
- At the Board meeting in Longreach, John O'Brien and Joseph O'Brien from VisIR provided the Board with an update on the RAPAD Power Grid progress including a draft RAPAD Power Grid Community Benefit Royalty Agreement discussion paper.
- Details of the Community Benefit Royalty Agreement discussion paper were presented during the Forum with attendees. Media coverage of the drafted detailed included the Courier Mail, ABC and Queensland Country Life.
- The Community Benefit Royalty Agreement will be published on the RAPAD and RAPAD Power Grid websites following final approval by the Board at its 1 November meeting.
- A snapshot of the Community Benefit Royalty Agreement and what it could mean for our region is on page 8.

## FORUM SNAPSHOT

### 126 attendees

presenters, councillors, landholders, local business, First Nations, government agencies, industry. (Target was 80 and cap for venue and format was 120).

Website from the time of launching the forum program - 1 Aug-28 Sep 2024:

### 1.1K views of the Forum website landing page

[www.rapadpowergrid.com.au/energy-and-economic-futures-2024](http://www.rapadpowergrid.com.au/energy-and-economic-futures-2024)

### 1.7K total visits with 1.3K unique visitors

### 108 new contacts added to project network

### MEDIA COVERAGE INCLUDED:

Queensland Country Life (QCL), Beef Central, Courier Mail, ABC Brisbane, ABC Western Queensland, Longreach Leader (post-event coverage), West FM out of Longreach also shared content and news.

### PROMOTION ACTIVITY INCLUDED:

- Two weeks of half page ads in the Longreach Leader (12 and 19/9 - pictured below) (Scheduled Barcoo Independent ads did not run due to closing of the paper)
- Flyers posted in Barcaldine
- Barcaldine Regional Council Facebook posts and newsletter articles
- Paid advertising on Facebook targeting all of the RAPAD region and surrounding areas (10K+ audience)
- Facebook posts tagged and shared by RAPAD councils
- Facebook program speaker announcement post and registration details shared to Longreach, Barcaldine and Blackall community groups, and CWQ Small Business Group
- RAPAD Board meeting update 27-28 August
- Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Assembly presentation 5 September
- Article on RAPAD Power Grid and forum in QCL (following WQAC) available in print and online
- Conversations across project team's professional and personal networks



### SOCIAL MEDIA

Stats from the time of launching the forum program - 1 Aug-28 Sep 2024:

#### Facebook - RAPAD

Includes running 1 paid post targeting RAPAD region and surrounding areas

#### 20.7K reach

(873 from followers - 19,665 non-followers)

#### 506 content interactions

#### 26 new followers

> Top performing post: "Meet Dr Josh Rhodes" (incl video interview from US Mission) - 1K reach, 1.12K impressions

#### LinkedIn - RAPAD

#### 670 reactions

#### 2K clicks

#### 24K impressions

(number of time content appears on someone's LinkedIn feed)

#### 158 new followers

> Top performing post: "Texan delegation touches down in Queensland" - 7,486 impressions, 543 clicks (pictured below)





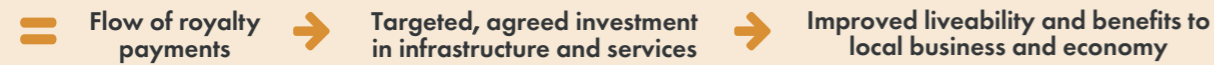
# What is a Community Benefit Royalty Agreement?

## RAPAD POWER GRID PROJECT

DEVELOPER



RAPAD COMMUNITY



## HOW WAS IT DEVELOPED?

Based on extensive research

Investigated project specific community benefit initiatives

Liaised with the Queensland Renewable Energy Council

Identified precedents from resources and CSG sectors

Discussed with other regional Councils, including in Qld and NSW, that are part of declared Renewable Energy Zones

### Guided by three principles

1. Provide an additional stable and predictable source of revenue to the host communities for investment in community infrastructure and services
2. Ensure local government and community are the primary decision makers in the application of the *RAPAD Power Grid Community Benefit Agreement* via a clear governance framework.
3. Attract investors and developers of renewable energy projects to western Queensland with a competitive advantages on many important investment criteria.

### To deliver on three objectives

1. **Deliver approximately \$183 million** in royalty-style annual cash flows to the community over 25-years.
2. **Increase livestock production capacity and efficiency** through improved agricultural infrastructure (including water and transport/logistics) developed in coordination with energy infrastructure.
3. **Improve social infrastructure and liveability** through skills development opportunities, environmental management capacity, and positively contributing to Australia's economy.

### Key features

- The *RAPAD Power Grid Community Benefit Royalty Agreement* will contribute community benefit payments for BOTH transmission and generation – **this is a first in Australia for transmission.**
- **Funds allocation decisions will be made by Councils and the community** via a governance framework - not state or federal government.
- **Funds will be allocated to all relevant regions,** generally across three tiers:
  - (i) LGAs hosting renewables and transmission
  - (ii) LGAs hosting transmission
  - (iii) Adjacent communities (incl. all RAPAD LGAs).
- **First Nations participation.**

## RAPAD Texan Delegation

RAPAD hosted a delegation from the United States' leading renewable energy State – Texas, ahead of an Energy and Economic Futures Forum in Barcaldine on Friday 27 September.

The delegation of landholders, policy and community representatives met with government and industry in Brisbane before visiting landholders in Blackall and Barcaldine and participating in the forum alongside local expertise and experience.

Find out more at: [www.rapad.com.au/publications/rapad-welcomes-Texan-delegation](http://www.rapad.com.au/publications/rapad-welcomes-Texan-delegation)



1. QREC industry stakeholder meeting, 2. University of Queensland 3. Radio interview ABC Brisbane Mornings with Steve Austin, 4. Powerlink hosted by CEO Paul Simshauser and joined by DG Paul Martyn, 5. meeting Senator Susan McDonald at a networking function hosted by VisIR.



1. Hosts with the most Blackall-Tambo Regional Council welcome the delegation to CWQ, 2. Cr Jane Scobie at the Blackall Saleyards, 3-4. local property visits including Evora hosted by Dennis and Karen Donohoe and 6-7. Coreena hosted by Gerard and Linda Penna, with Raelene Bowden and her shearing team, and 5. lunch meeting with Central West Aboriginal Corporation in Barcardine. Opposite page: Photos from the forum.



## National Parks acquisition and potential impacts on the region's Opal Industry



This has been an ongoing agenda item during the virtual meetings and face-to-face meetings.

Following the 5 July virtual meeting, Shaun Ferris, Deputy Director-General, Department of Resources, and associated departmental representatives including those from the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation (DESI), travelled to Winton during the Opal Festival to meet with Crs White and O'Neil, Queensland Boulder Opal Association (QBOA) and others to discuss the industries concerns. Alison Summerville from the QBOA provided a report from that meeting with both QBOA and Cr White and O'Neil indicating the value of the visit.

At the Longreach August meeting, RAPAD once again provided the connection between departments and the local community regarding the impacts of property purchases for National Parks on the opal industry and here again the QBOA provided an impassioned plea to the department representatives for the continuation of this generational, economically important, low impact industry.

At that August meeting, DDG Shaun Ferris provided an overview of the departments position outlining key points:

- the Opalton-Mayneside Restricted Area (RA 257) which was established in 1992 to facilitate opal mining.
- acknowledgement of the social and economic benefits the opal industry, which has been in the area for more than 120 years,
- Stated GeoSciences Queensland is undertaking a thorough analysis of prospectivity and potential prospectivity for opals in the affected area,
- operational work underway by the department to simplify and streamline approval processes for existing and future opal miners.

Nick Weinert, Executive Direct Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), provided and update, the key take outs being:

- DESI's recent field trips to Tonkoro and Vergemont Stations – including biodiversity values surveys, assessments and inspections of Indigenous cultural sites by QPWS, scientists from the Queensland Herbarium and Traditional Owners, and
- That these surveys and inspections focussed on ground-truthing the values analysis that underpinned the prioritisation of Tonkoro and Vergemont Stations for acquisition,
- Information and data collected from these field trips are being compiled in order to deliver on Government commitments and enable future decision-making on tenure, ongoing access for mining etc,
- A number of key threatened species were observed,
- DESI and QBOA worked through access, conduct and compensation matters, specifically required for the Conduct and Compensation Agreement between the landholder (DESI) and miners,
- That QPWS will now expedite finalisation of the draft Conduct and Compensation Agreement.

RAPAD asked for further work to investigate opportunities to review/update signage across the RAPAD region promoting the region's threatened flora and fauna; and commence preliminary discussions and planning for National Park tourist attractions with Outback Queensland Tourism Association, Desert Channels and RAPAD.

## Regional Universities Centre



Pictured above (L-R): Cr Tony Rayner, Cr Francis Murray, Cr Cathy White, Cr Sally O'Neill, Anita Murray (on screen), Cr Rob Chandler, Duncan Taylor, Cr Rick Britton and Cr Andrew Martin.

### First board meeting for CUC RAPAD Central West Queensland

- Preceding the RAPAD meeting in Longreach, the inaugural CUC RAPAD Central West Queensland (CWQ) Board meeting was hosted at the former Pastoral College.
- This was the first meeting of the new CUC RAPAD CWQ Board, and represented an informal handover from RAPAD, as the successful applicant, to the new CUC RAPAD CWQ Board
- The CUC RAPAD CWQ will continue to progress as a separate entity, with RAPAD continuing to remove itself from the governance and operations that it maintained since its successful application.
- The inaugural CUC RAPAD CWQ Board is Cr Tony Rayner as Chair, along with other CWQ region Mayors, Duncan Taylor, and Dr Anita Milroy from the University of Queensland.
- Information on Country Universities Centre locations will be published at: [www.cuc.edu.au/our-centres](http://www.cuc.edu.au/our-centres)



### RAPAD Position on Health

This is a key advocacy tool for RAPAD and its member councils and will be used in conjunction with the WQAC Health Report.

The report is now published on the RAPAD website: <https://rapad.com.au/publications/cwq-health-report-2024/>



## Arts, culture and creativity in the RAPAD region



### Woven Stories

As reported in the previous Communique, in April this year creative community dialogue workshops were held in Jundah, Winton, Alpha, Barcaldine, Tambo and with health stakeholders in Longreach. The aim of the workshops was to explore arts, culture and creativity and their contribution to vitality and particularly to resilience in response to drought, for individuals, communities, and the whole region.

The 'Woven Stories' project, led by RAPAD and partnering with Queensland University of Technology (QUT) builds on RAPAD supported research by Dr Sandra Gattenhof and Dr Donna Hancox investigating 'The Role of the Creative Arts in Regional Australia' published in March 2023. The 'Woven Stories' project was made possible through funding from the Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal's (FRRR) 'Community Impact Program'.

The findings of the workshops are available at the project page: <https://rapad.com.au/projects/woven-stories>

Videos have now been published with workshop participants sharing their understanding of creativity, the aspects of communities they are most proud of and the spaces and places that are important to them and that make the greatest impact. The workshops also explored community challenges and opportunities across all aspects of life and future hopes and ambitions for communities.



These findings will inform future project activities. Key to the project is identifying the social and economic impacts/potential of creativity, especially in relation to community resilience.

In the next phase of the project several case studies will be published to share between communities and beyond as well as digital stories of the workshops and evidence of the vibrancy and passion of arts, culture and creative in CWQ.



### Grow Your Own

The CEO advised that RAPAD was successful in its application for funding under Jobs Queensland's Grow Your Own program for the proposed "Regional Mentored Arts & Recreation Workforce Planning Project".

The project will build on the work and outcomes of Woven Stories growing capability and opportunities in Central West Queensland for career and job development in the Arts and Recreation sectors.

The key milestones of the project are:

- Developing project materials and identifying/connecting with stakeholders, and establishing a project webpage on RAPAD's website,
- Undertaking and publishing an Environmental Scan Report,
- Identification of the issues and solutions, and
- Develop and publish a Workforce Plan relevant to the industry.

The funding was announced on 27 September and more details on the project will be provided the coming months: <https://jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/about-us/news/funding-grow-your-own>

Follow RAPAD's Facebook page for updates.



### Changemaker Leadership Workshops

RAPAD partnered with FRRR to deliver two, two-day Changemaker Workshops in our region. The workshops aim to help and support the capacity, knowledge and skills of the participants, to be effective leaders and changemakers in their communities. They workshops are being delivered by the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, and part of the FRRR Community Impact Program funding. The two workshops are supported by:

- Blackall-Tambo Regional Council and hosted in Tambo (6-7 August 2024), and
- Longreach Regional Council and hosted in Longreach (9-10 October 2024).

More information on these workshops will be provided in the next Communique.

### Regional Waste Management Plan

A funding application is still progressing with the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation to support the implementation of the RAPAD Regional Waste Management Plan.

This plan can be viewed at: <https://rapad.com.au/publications/cwq-regional-waste-management-plan>

### Other

Various ongoing advocacy or project related activities are:

- Seeking feedback from fuel suppliers on potential bulk purchasing prices,
- Quarry materials
- A desk top review of carbon farming and rating across Qld local governments.



## Western Queensland Alliance of Councils



The CEO provided an update on activities under the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils banner, including:

- Planning for the 2024 Assembly which was successfully hosted in Mount Isa 4-5 September.
- Interactions with WQAC members in response to Rex Airlines going into voluntary administration. RAPAD has participated in virtual updates with the Administrators courtesy of the NWQROC,
- That the WQAC State Election platform has been finalised and published on the WQAC website. The platform is being provided to parties with candidates contesting the three state electorates of the region: Traeger, Gregory and Warrego and all have been asked to provide a response by 18 October so these can be published on the WQAC website.

## WQAC Assembly 2024

The fifth Western Queensland Alliance of Councils (WQAC) Assembly was hosted on 4-5 September in Mount Isa. The theme of this year's event was Future Ready Infrastructure "Enabling Western Queensland to Prosper".

- RAPAD CEO, David Arnold, presented on the WQAC's Regional Health Review - Where do the findings point and facilitated the panel discussions on Queensland Government priorities to improve health equity outcomes in Western Queensland.
- RAPAD Deputy CEO, Morgan Gronold, presented on the RAPAD US Mission and facilitated panel discussions on Net Zero Future – Will Western Queensland perish or prosper?

Other program highlights included:

- Live cross to Paris for a presentation and brainstorming session with Olympic Champion and Queensland Great, Natalie Cook OAM OLY Director - Brisbane 2032, Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee on How can Western Queensland Prosper from the 2032 Games?
- Keynote address from Prof Allan Dale, Professor - The Cairns Institute, James Cook University and Theme Lead at Queensland Decarbonisation Hub on "Future ready infrastructure: Is Western Queensland ready for transition?"
- The 2025 WQAC Assembly will be hosted by Balonne Shire Council in St George with the dates to be confirmed once State and Federal parliamentary calendars and other key dates have been confirmed for 2025.
- Find out more about WQAC2024 including presenter profiles and presentations at: [www.wqac.com.au/assembly2024](http://www.wqac.com.au/assembly2024)



'A united voice for all of Western Queensland'



**WQAC Mayors and Deputies present at WQAC 2024:** (Front row, L-R), Cr Bradley Hawkins - Deputy Mayor Carpentaria Shire Council, Cr Sally O'Neil - Mayor Barcoo Shire Council, Cr Suzette Beresford - Mayor Paroo Shire Council, Cr Wendy Taylor - Mayor Maranoa Regional Council, Cr Peta MacRae - Mayor Mount Isa City Council, Cr Cathy White - Mayor Winton Shire Council, Cr Nikki Flute - A/Mayor Flinders Shire Council, Cr Frederick O'Keefe - Mayor Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council, Cr Ben Hall - Mayor Quilpie Shire Council.  
(Back row L-R) Cr Francis Murray - Mayor Diamantina Shire Council, Cr Tony Rayner - Mayor Longreach Regional Council, Cr Shaun Radnedge - Murweh Shire Council, Cr John Wharton AM - Mayor Richmond Shire Council, Cr Rob Chandler - Mayor Barcaldine Regional Council, Cr Andrew Martin - Mayor Blackall-Tambo Regional Council, Cr Bill Winks - Deputy Mayor Balonne Shire Council, Cr Barry Hughes - Mayor Etheridge Shire Council, Cr Trevor Pickering - Mayor Croydon Shire Council, Cr Ernie Camp - Mayor Burke Shire Council, Cr Rick Britton - Mayor Boulia Shire Council.

REGULAR STAKEHOLDER UPDATES



**Rural Financial Counselling Service North Queensland**

In this period the Board heard from the CEO about an impending contract extension for further delivery of the States Farm Business Resilience Planning program in the Central West and North Qld region. The FBRP will operate through the RAPAD business, Rural Financial Counselling Service Nth Qld ([www.rfcsnq.com.au](http://www.rfcsnq.com.au)), and this extension to contract will build on RFCSNQs successful delivery of the existing Grazing Future Livestock Farm Business Resilience Planning.

**Update from Ann Leahy MP**

Ms Anne Leahy joined the 2 August virtual meeting. Matters discussed were:

- General update on Estimates
- Rex Airlines administration and impact to regional flights
- Gravel pits
- Permanent Works for Queensland funding

Additional issues raised with the Shadow Minister included: cost shifting as a major impost, FAGs receipt of funding to local government, QRA re gravel and ILUAs and quantity of supply.

**LGAQ update**

Cr Andrew Martin and Josh Dyke, LGAQ, provided an update on LGAQ and LGAQ Policy Executive matters including:

- 2024 State Election Campaign,
- Federal Parliamentary Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability,
- Local Government grants and Subsidies Program,
- Campaign: Juvenile Crime in Queensland,
- Funded projects.

For the latest LGAQ news visit: <https://www.lgaq.asn.au/news-media>

**Western Queensland Primary Health Network (WQPHN)**

- Gavin Farry, Specialist Advisor spoke to the WQPHN initiative – ConnectME Western Queensland and invited all councils to contact him for onground support regarding the program.
- Rachel Bock, Project Manager, Integrated Care and Commissioning, WQPHN, spoke to her appointment as the ICC project officer and proposed project outcomes.

**Central Western Hospital and Health Service (CWHHS)**

Anthony West, CEO CWHHS, provided a general overview including workforce, new services, achievements over the past year and new and emerging risks. Anthony and the Board also discussed the "Putting Queensland Kids First Strategy" and how councils could support this strategy through providing advice on community led family, child-friendly activities which CWHHS could link in with.

**Tourism**

Tourism and Events Queensland's Kim McConnie, Director of Marketing, and Emma Vidgen, Leader of Creative Content along with Outback Queensland Tourism Association's CEO Denise Brown and Operations Manager Kelly Hensley joined the Longreach face-to-face meeting for TEQ introductions to the Board and to provide an overview of the tourism environment.



Image: Bryan Crawford, Longbow Productions.

## BOARD CALENDAR

### The next meetings for the RAPAD Board rounding out 2024 are:

- 4 October, 1 November – both virtual,
- 26, 27 November – face-to-face in Brisbane, including the Board AGM and then followed by the annual Friends of RAPAD evening on the 27th,
- 20 December – virtual.

Further detail can be provided by contacting the CEO, David Arnold on 0428 583 301.

### Further information on activities undertaken by RAPAD and its businesses:

RAPAD – [www.rapad.com.au](http://www.rapad.com.au)

RFCSNQ – [www.rfcsnq.com.au](http://www.rfcsnq.com.au)

RAPAD Skilling – [www.rapadskilling.com.au](http://www.rapadskilling.com.au)

RAPAD is proud to partner with UniSQ in the delivery of its Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales (SQNNSW) Hub across the Central Western Queensland region.



## CENTRAL WEST QUEENSLAND'S OWN REGISTERED TRAINING PROVIDER

For individual and business training needs, contact the team at RAPAD Skilling.

RAPAD Skilling is a Skills Assure supplier approved to deliver subsidised qualifications funded under the Qld Government's VET Investment Plan and User Choice Scheme.

Give the team a call on 4652 5600 or visit [rapadskilling.com.au](http://rapadskilling.com.au)

