



FNQ Presidents Report 2013-2014

1. From the President

It has been a pleasure and privilege to be the President of the FNQ Branch of EIANZ from 2012-14. The Far Northern Division membership comprises 101 members and includes environmental practitioners from Australian, state and local government, public companies, educational institutions, utilities, consultancies, mining and construction companies and law firms.

The highlights for the FNQ Division have been working with a great committee of people with diverse skills, experience and passion for the environmental profession, organizing some great professional development and social events in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay and Rockhampton and updating the website and communicating with members. I believe that the FNQ Committee has achieved its objectives for 2013-14.

The objectives of the Far Northern Division include:

- advance ethical and competent environmental practice;
- promote environmental knowledge and awareness;
- facilitate interaction among environmental practitioners; and
- highlight information on emerging and important environmental issues

In far north Queensland, key issues include:

- port expansion along the Queensland coast;
- clearing of native vegetation;
- streamlining and amendments to environmental legislation;
- environmental sustainability;
- declining water quality;
- community dissatisfaction about the transparency of the EIA process and decision making;
- dissemination of information and capacity building; and
- climate change.

The division arranged seminars, conferences and workshops involving scientists, policy-makers, and practitioners to address and debate these issues. Several social events were held which provides a great opportunity for networking with your peers. Our councillor and several FNQ members attended and presented at the EIANZ Annual Conference in Melbourne.

The FNQ Committee appreciated the support from central office and SEQ Division. FNQ Committee faced a number of challenges primarily related to the voluntary nature of the committee.

On behalf of the FNQ Committee, thank you for your support as a member, sponsor, speaker or event organizer and we encourage you to spread the word to interested industry colleagues and friends

2. Committee

The 2012/2013 Committee comprised 12 members:

Position	Member
President	Dr Adam Smith
Vice President	Dr Nathan Waltham
Secretary	Mel Cowlshaw (Carol Marshall)

Treasurer	Laurence Liessmann
Member	Lauren Keliher (Rockhampton)
Member	Alistair Buchan
Member	Andrew Walsh
Member	Phil Jeston (Mackay)
Councillor	Kim Wright

Committee Meetings

Eight committee Meetings were held on dates below at offices of member organisations (GBRMPA, JCU, RPS, Worley Parson) with teleconference to regional committee members. Attendance ranged from 5 to 9 members at committee meetings.

- 6 September 2013 (AGM)
- 8 October 2013 (GBRMPA Conference Room)
- 14 November 2013 (AECOM)
- 4 February 2014 (WorleyParsons)
- 12 March 2014 (RPS)
- 8 April 2014 (JCU)
- 6 May 2014 (GBRMPA)
- 3 June 2014 (NQ Dry Tropics)

3. Events

In 2013/2014 the FNQ Division organized and participated in 5 Events

1. Endangered and Threatened Species Forum 6 September 2013 – Townsville (approx. 40 people)
2. Christmas Drinks
 - a. Mackay – 29th November 2013
 - b. Rockhampton – 15th November 2013
 - c. Townsville – 29th November 2013
 - d. Cairns – 29th November 2013
3. Drinks in July
 - a. Mackay – 18th July 2014
 - b. Rockhampton – 13th June 2014
 - c. Townsville – 13th June 2014
 - d. Cairns – 18th July 2014
4. Pits to Ports – 2nd May 2014
5. ABC of Environmental Assessment – 24th June 2014

Sponsors

The success of the FNQ Divisions' events and activities is dependent on the support of our industry-specific sponsors and partners. In return, we have offered our sponsors an opportunity to advertise and promote their respective businesses while sponsoring our events, through the displaying of banners and corporate materials, and attendance at events. In the 2013/2014 year, the following organizations have proudly sponsored EIANZ events:



4. Governance

The FNQ Division provided advice to the EIANZ Executive on several key Governance documents such as the EIANZ Corporate Plan, Fellowship, Training, Strategy and Plans.

FNQ committee meetings had an agenda and minutes were taken.

We advertised and employed a part-time secretary using a standard contract and procedures from EIANZ Central Office. We employed Carol Marshall who has done an outstanding job for the year. She has decided not to continue in 2014/15 so we advertised the position to all members in May 2014.

The financial position of the FNQ Division (Credits in Bank) at June 2013 was \$14,151.24 and at June 2014 was \$13,188.17. An Annual Financial report is attached.

5. Communication

A highlight has been the update of the FNQ information on the website with information on the committee, issues, past events. Several articles were included in the SEQ Newsletter and the EIANZ e-newsletter The Environmental Practitioner. We did email mailouts and Linked-in updates.

We produced one media release on 4 September 2013 on the Endangered Species Forum

We provided advice to the government and community on several environmental issues.

- Draft Cape York Regional Plan
- Draft GBR Strategic Assessment

A challenge is that FNQ members are widely dispersed over a broad geographical area which makes face to face meetings and communication more difficult (than a major city).

6. Building Relationships

The FNQ Division Committee has been working towards the delivery of a range of events and professional development opportunities throughout the North Queensland region. We have been investigating topical issues and suitable localities to service the whole of the FNQ Division member base.

FNQ Division members in Cairns, Mackay and Rockhampton would like to become more involved with events and professional development and networking opportunities. We have asked members in these areas to suggest events which we are happy to support with organizational skills and some funding.

FNQ Division continues to develop relationships with other organisations and associations, including the JCU, CSIRO, AIMS, AICD, NQCC, Wet Tropics, GBRMPA and providing opportunities to share events and broaden our contacts base.


7. Plans for 2014/2015

The FNQ believes that 2013-14 was a good year with an ongoing President, Secretariat and Councilor and several ongoing committee members. In the coming year the President is standing down and our paid secretariat is finishing up. The FNQ Division plans to deliver at least four professional developments, networking and social events for the Environmental Profession of Far North Queensland throughout the 2014/2015 year. Examples of the types of events we believe that the members and community would like us to organize on their behalf are presence at JCU open days/guest lectures; host several discussion events on emerging or new environmental policy/management/technologies, training on legislation or environmental management tools and techniques.

We plan to vote at the AGM on the boundary between FNQ and SEQ divisions and how we can best work together.

1. No change (keep boundary at Rockhampton)
2. Move boundary to north of Rockhampton (so that Rockhampton joins SEQ Division)

We welcome contributions and ideas from members on how we can assist you and the environmental profession.



Dr Adam Smith FEIAZ

FNQ President

27 July 2014

Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand



Environment
Institute of
Australia and
New Zealand

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2013/14

Statement of Profit and Loss for the Year Ended 30 June 2014

____NQ____ Division

INCOME	Budget	Actual
	2013/14	2013/14
	\$	\$
Networking Drinks	-	\$0.00
EIANZ AGM	-	\$0.00
Annual Conference	-	\$180.00
Members Drinks	-	\$0.00
Bank Interest	-	\$1.25
Central Office Members Contribution	-	\$1,052.00
Total INCOME	\$0.00	\$1,233.25

EXPENDITURE

SALARY - Events Coordinator	-	\$0.00
FEES & CHARGES : Bank Fees & Charges	-	\$0.00
EVENTS	-	\$0.00
Networking Drinks	-	\$820.87
AGM (2013/14)	-	\$929.12
Members Drinks	-	\$0.00
Committee Meeting Expenses	-	\$0.00
Wages (Secretariat)		\$200.00
Secretariat items		\$30.00
Post Office Box Renewal (2013/14)		\$216.33
EIANZ	-	\$0.00
Total EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$2,196.32

PROFIT (LOSS) for the year

\$0.00

-\$963.07

Accumulated funds at beginning of the year			\$14,151.24
Add net income for the year			-\$963.07
Accumulated funds at end of year			\$13,188.17