

## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

### **REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT**

#### **Background:**

The Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils Inc (WBBROC) is an incorporated body representing the interests of Councils with the Wide Bay Burnett Region- Bundaberg , Fraser Coast, Gympie, South Burnett, Cherbourg and North Burnett.

The Wide Bay Burnett region has a desirable living environment, affordable housing and an array of highly successful industry sectors such as horticulture, engineering manufacturing, aviation etc. further to this, region has long been identified as an under-performing region that has many challenges including a rapidly ageing population, low household income, above average unemployment and a poorly skilled workforce. To date there has been no body or organisation that has been responsible for coordinating region-wide economic development efforts from a “strategic” or “ whole of region “ viewpoint. It is believed that this has been a significant factor in the region continuing to under-perform other regions in the State.

With this in mind the Councils have now established a Regional Economic Development Unit within WBBROC and are now seeking the services of a specialist regional economic development consultant to pursue identified regional priority projects/opportunities and develop means to implement those priorities in collaboration with other economic development professionals in the region such as Council EDO’s, DEEDI , RDA and business/industry. The consultant will provide strategic coordination of regional economic development priorities by working closely with the ROC’s Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee on which the aforementioned will be represented and be responsible to the WBBROC Management Committee. Regular liaison with Council Mayors and CEO’s will be essential.

#### **What are our goals:**

WBBROC has previously determined the following as being key goals that need to be addressed:

- Stopping the exodus of skilled/young families
- Attracting skilled families to the region
- Attracting Global Knowledge Businesses and Workers
- Growing inter-regional trade and export performance
- Improving the use of resources through regional integration and coordination

#### **What are we seeking:**

We are seeking innovative proposals from individuals or business entities to undertake this role and deliver in a tangible way on the goals stated above. We have funding that we believe should

be adequate to fund a high calibre consultant for approximately three days per week together with motor vehicle costs and other relevant costs. Administrative support will be provided.

This is not an ordinary position – we are seeking the services of a highly skilled and motivated person/entity that can demonstrate a substantial background in economic/business development.....the ability to interact with business and industry at the decision making level and whose past experience gives them the ability to access government in order to facilitate successful project outcomes.

Demonstrated business planning and project management skills will be essential. The consultant will have considerable independence in determining how to best deliver the desired outcomes – it is the results that will count. You will need to demonstrate a past history of success in this field.

### **Period of Engagement:**

This will be a contract based engagement. We propose that there be an initial three (3) month probationary period followed by annual renewal subject to satisfactory performance.

### **Reporting :**

On a day to day basis the consultant will liaise with the Executive Officer of WBBROC. The consultant will attend all Advisory Committee meetings and report to the quarterly meetings of WBBROC in written and verbal form.

### **Acceptance of proposal:**

W.B.B.R.O.C. is not bound to accept the lowest or any proposal. It reserves the right to accept the proposal that it considers to be in the best interests of the organisation and its members.

### **SUBMISSIONS:**

Written submissions must be lodged no later than Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 with:

Mr Spencer Slatter  
Executive Officer  
W.B.B.R.O.C. Inc.  
190 Cheapside Street  
MARYBOROUGH. Q 4650

### **ENQUIRIES:**

Spencer Slatter  
07 4121 0455 or 0438 122 554