

Mr. Robert Prestipino
Director, Vital Places Pty Ltd

BIOGRAPHY

Robert Prestipino specialises in shaping places that support local identity and lifestyle, and will thrive in the future.

With his insights and experience from over 25 years of guiding best practice town centre and urban improvement projects, Robert offers expert services for the delivery of place-based catalyst projects.

He helps achieve great things within communities, by offering a unique understanding of how to use public infrastructure projects as catalysts to secure vital futures.

Offering specialist skills in stakeholder communication, coaching, leadership and taskforce management, Robert helps community leaders strategically manage the critical phases of every project, in a way that recognises the intrinsic character and concerns of each community.

Robert is a qualified urban designer, registered landscape architect, corporate member of the Planning Institute of Australia and regularly presents on strategies to create better places for people and business.

ABSTRACT

NQ3 Enterprise Strategy: New Agenda for Sustainable Regions

The NQ3 Enterprise Strategy, undertaken in late 2008, was an ambitious exercise in forging the framework and context for the sub-regional collaboration of Hinchinbrook Shire Council, Burdekin Shire Council and Charters Towers Regional Council. The process has been robust and fast tracked to gauge the support for such a unique local initiative. In the very limited time and resources available for the process, the NQ3 Enterprise Strategy has been able to clearly identify the critical Sub-regional issues and have these challenges acknowledged by the relevant State agencies as critical to any sustainable vision for the NQ Region.

The completion of this first sub-regional collaboration has also facilitated Townsville City to offer resources to establish a draft framework for NQ Regional Development in collaboration with the Sub-regional councils. This collaborative process was supported by the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry (DTRDI) as a best practice model of local government collaboration in the NQ Region.

The NQ3 Enterprise Strategy has lead to the development of a unique approach to the long term economic development by Hinchinbrook Shire through the development of their Growth Strategy completed in June 2010. This strategy applies the findings of the broader sub-regional strategy at the local level and provides insights to how declining rural communities on the edges of regional cities hold the key to regional sustainability. This project reveals the hidden value of sub-regional communities and their critical role in securing the liveability of our regions.