

SHOALHAVEN PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC

Breakfast meeting

Thursday 8 June 2017 at Shoalhaven City Council

Meeting opened 7.30am

1. Welcome and Introductions

Acknowledgment to Country

Dignitaries:

- Clr Amanda Findley, Mayor of SCC
- Clr Joanna Gash
- Clr Patricia White
- Lynnette Kearney (representing Ann Sudmalis, MP)

New members

- Gavin Finch (Think Tank Business Services)
- Mark Poynter – Cardno Engineering - Apology
- April Hudson – Cardo Engineering - Apology
- James Olsen – Cardno Engineering – Apology

Guests

- Madeline Gilkes – Food and Health Consultant
- Keiya Urata – EJGBB
- Gabe Reed – EJGBB
- Lorraine Hayward – looking for new opportunities
- Lester Radford – Gleeson Loans – finance broker

2. Apologies

- Heather Darlington – Bendigo Bank
- Anthony Healey – GHD

Committee

- Introduction of committee members
- SPBA is a not for profit association and relies heavily on volunteers and in particular committee members who work hard to provide programs that meet the needs of members.
- A critical component of SPBA is membership and in order for the association to grow, develop and be strong, we need new members and new voices.
- To those who are guests and are not members, please consider membership
- You can check out the SPBA website for membership information
- Thank you to Michaela Stansfield who has recently resigned from the Committee.

3. Upcoming events / projects

Shoalhaven Young Professionals –

• Recent events:

Joint with SPBA - Trivia night at Bottlerocket (approx. 40 attendees)

- **Upcoming events:**

Lunch at Jellyfish Café Thurs 15 June at 12.30pm

Young Professional Mentor Program - Rhonda McGuire

- This program will be completed in 2 weeks showcases our young professionals in the region
- Sponsored by Southern Phones and UOW Shoalhaven
- Graduation will be held Friday 7 July 2017 at Bomaderry Bowling Club – availability of Hero tables at \$1350 (10 seats) of which \$500 goes to Shoalhaven Education Fund. Thank you to GHD who have bought a Hero table.
- Tickets available at \$90 (members) and \$125 (non-members)

Compass and Compass + Executive Leadership Program - Rhonda McGuire

- Pilot program in 2017 – professional development for managers in the Shoalhaven – based on peer to peer learning where the group shares their knowledge with one another. There is also the ability to complete an Advanced Diploma in Leadership Management as part of this pilot.
- The program involves 13 businesses, SCC, and a different guest speaker once a month, providing so much value listening to leaders in our region who run successful businesses
- Thanks to UOW Shoalhaven for providing the venue
- Celebratory lunch to be held 19 July and NSW Premier has accepted SPBA' s invitation to attend and be our guest speaker

4. General Business

Shoalhaven Business Chamber Awards – Steven Bayer

- Applications opened 17 May and will close 27 June
- SPBA members have had great success in these awards over the years
- SPBA are auditors for the judging
- Go to the SBC website for the link to the NSW Business Chamber portal

Regional Jobs And Investment Package – Greg Pullen

- Federal government program operating in Shoalhaven / Eurobodalla / Bega Valley council areas
- Funding program for business - Make applications to get matched \$ for \$
- \$20million pool
- 5 categories for businesses are:
 - Tourism
 - Tourism Support
 - Manufacturing and Transport Logistics
 - Primary industry, Aquaculture, Agriculture and Viticulture
 - Health and Human Services and Specialised Education Services
- Applications close 31 July, comprehensive application process – don't leave till last minute. Guideline documents on tables. Contact Greg or his office for assistance if required.
- While not everyone in this room fits into these categories; it may be relevant and of interest to your clients.

Careers Expo – Robbie Collins

20 July 2017 and looking for business to be involved or networks of business to present.

5. The Great Debate

Thank you to the Sponsors of the Great Debate, Southern Phones and UOW Shoalhaven

One of SPBA's objectives is to advance the education and training of staff employed in Shoalhaven businesses by establishing programs to up-skill them to undertake higher professional employment. The SYP Mentor Program is a tool to allow young professional to improve their skills, knowledge and attitude.

One of the successful mechanisms that the Mentor program uses is the Great Debate, which puts young professionals front and centre to demonstrate a range of their skills.

'Entrepreneurs take risks. Regional towns may not survive without an entrepreneur's drive, vision and spirit'

Whilst improving the presentation and public speaking skills of young professionals, the debate and in particular this topic, allows us to consider some other objectives of SPBA, which is to promote the Shoalhaven as a regional force and as a place to work, live and raise a family.

Adjudicators: Clr Amanda Findley, Clr Jo Gash, Steven Bayer, Greg Pullen and Grant Gleeson

Affirmative Team:

Coach: Matthew Harwood, Harwood Accoustics
Team: 1. Holly McGuinness, Webics
2. Kay-Lea Edmiston, Quest Apartments
3. Marianne Jones, SCC
Research: Robbie Collins, Michael Burgess and Elspeth Finney

Negative Team:

Coach: Ryan Lord
Team: 1. Andrew Wakefield, Venue Shell Systems
2. Guy Zerbst, NowChem
3. Jessica Clifford, ABC
Research: Rosalie Wood, Toby Carter and Jane Curran

Steven Bayer attended the 40th anniversary and opening of a new facility of NowChem and one of the guest speakers was Bronnie Taylor MLC. She reinforced that one of the things that regional towns rely upon is entrepreneurs and members to invest in their regional community. This investment can include financial, business or social. Being part of SPBA is one way that businesses and entrepreneurs can invest in their community, to support professional businesses and professionals. So thank you for being part of this terrific association.

Next Meetings

- Committee Meeting – Thursday, 20 July 2017
- Breakfast Meeting - Thursday, 10 August 2017

Meeting closed: 8.30am