



Townsville Summit

by informa...

11 – 12 NOVEMBER 2026

THE VILLE RESORT-CASINO, TOWNSVILLE

**SHAPING NORTHERN QUEENSLAND'S FUTURE:
INVESTMENT, INNOVATION, AND GROWTH**

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



Nigel Buchanan, *Senior Principal, QIC*



Maria James, *Chief Executive Officer, Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone Inc (MITEZ)*



Vignesh Bandi, *Senior Vice President, Quinbrook*



Louie Trajkoski, *Senior Investment Director, Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)*



Lisa McDonald, *Chief Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland*



Emma Peters, *Chief Executive Officer, Townsville Chamber of Commerce*



Scott Muller, *Program Manager, Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct*



Veronica Aster, *Environmental Offset Program Manager, Townsville City Council*



Brigadier Ben McLennan, *Commander 3rd Brigade, Australian Army*



Terry Jobling, *General Manager for Power & Electricity Transmission, APA Group*



Joe Mammen, *General Manager, Ernest Henry Operations, Evolution Mining*



Nathan Blundell, *Chief Development Officer, Windlab*



Ed Mason, *Chief Executive Officer, Jet Zero Australia*



Glen Connell, *Executive General Manager – Stakeholder Relations, Harmony*



Simon Yim, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Sky Renewables*



Ben Paxton-Hall, *Director – Operations, North West*



Pat Kelly, *Interim Chief Executive Officer & Chief Operating Officer, Critical Minerals Group*



Andrew Mooney, *Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, True North Copper*



Damien Keys, *Managing Director, Sunshine Metals*



Matt McKee, *Chief Researcher, Beyond Zero Emissions*



Ben Griffin, *Executive Director, Geon*



Tanya Canavan, *Chief of Staff, Ryowa/Southern Cross Fertilisers*

The Townsville Summit

Wednesday 11 November 2026

DAY 1

8:30 Registration & Morning Coffee

9:00 **DAY ONE OPENING**

9:05 **OPENING** | Opening remarks from the Chair

9:10 **Update from MITEZ: Strengthening North and North West Queensland**

Maria James, *Chief Executive Officer, Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone Inc (MITEZ)*

9:35 **The role of 3rd brigade in Australian Defence strategy**

Ben McLennan, *Commander 3rd Brigade, Australian Army*

10:00 **CopperString 2032**

Nigel Buchanan, *Senior Principal, QIC*

10:25 Networking and refreshment break

10:55 **The Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct Project: Townsville's gateway to a greater tomorrow**

Scott Muller, *Program Manager, Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct*

Veronica Aster, *Environmental Offset Program Manager, Townsville City Council*

11:20 **Investing for impact across North & North West Queensland**

Louie Trajkoski, *Senior Director, Investment, Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)*

11:45 **Making Townsville Australia's Most Liveable Industrial City**

Balancing industrial growth with community expectations to create a city where people want to build careers, raise families and invest for the long term.

Townsville is experiencing significant industrial growth across defence, critical minerals, manufacturing, renewable energy, logistics and infrastructure. However, major projects can only succeed if the region can attract and retain the workforce needed to deliver them.

This workshop will bring together leaders from industry, government, education, property, tourism and the community to identify practical actions that will strengthen Townsville's liveability and competitiveness over the next decade.

Emma Peters, *Chief Executive Officer, Townsville Chamber of Commerce*

12:10 **Empowering Townsville: Strategies for workforce development and future growth**

Lisa McDonald, *Chief Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland*

12:35 Networking and lunch break

13:40 **"Project Ulysses": Securing North Queensland's Energy Future**

Ed Mason, *Chief Executive Officer, Jet Zero*

14:05 **Project Lion – Marrying local agricultural waste resources with leading global technologies to create domestic fuel capability and resilience**

Simon Yim, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Sky Renewables*

14:30 **Eva Copper: Towards First Production**

Glen Connell, *Executive General Manager - Stakeholder Relations, Harmony Gold Mining*

14:55 Networking and refreshment break

15:40 **Advancing the Lindfield vanadium project**

Pat Kelly, *Interim Chief Executive Officer & Chief Operating Officer, Critical Minerals Group*

16:05 **Mt Oxide – Growing a New Copper District in Northwest Queensland**

Andrew Mooney, *Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, True North Copper*

16:30 **Investment pipeline and opportunities for major projects in Queensland's North and North West**

— Exploring the current investment landscape

— Infrastructure development and economic impact

— Strategies for long-term economic sustainability in Northern Queensland

16:55 **CLOSING REMARKS** | Closing remarks from the Chair

17:00 Networking Function



The Townsville Summit

Thursday 12 November 2026

DAY 2

9:00 DAY 2 OPENING

9:05 **OPENING REMARKS** | Opening remarks from the Chair

9:10 From Sunshine to Silicon: The Case for Eight-Hour Storage

Vignesh Bandi, *Senior Vice President*, Quinbrook

9:35 Unlocking North Queensland's renewable energy potential

Nathan Blundell, *Chief Development Officer*, Windlab

10:00 Energy generation and storage in the regions

Terry Jobling, *General Manager for Power & Electricity Transmission*, APA Group

10:25 Powering Up North and North West Queensland

In the fifth and sixth locations for Beyond Zero Emissions' National Action Plan, BZE will share insights into the opportunities for Townsville and Mount Isa to become economic superpowers and seek feedback from both regions on how to ensure both regions' ongoing prosperity.

Matt McKee, *Chief Researcher*, Beyond Zero Emissions

10:50 Networking and refreshment break

11:20 Transforming Fairfield & Co

Ben Griffin, *Executive Director*, Geon

11:45 Copper and North West Queensland: cornerstones for Evolution

Joe Mammen, *General Manager, Ernest Henry Operations*, Evolution Mining

12:10 PANEL DISCUSSION

Strengthening pathways and boosting the northern economy via community engagement

Tanya Canavan, *Chief of Staff*, Ryowa/Southern Cross Fertilisers

12:40 Developing Queensland phosphate resources for Australian agriculture and sovereign supply chains

Ben Paxton-Hall, *Director – Operations*, North West Phosphate

13:05 Update on the Ravenswood Consolidated Project

Damien Keys, *Managing Director*, Sunshine Metals

13:30 PANEL DISCUSSION

Logistical supply chain challenges for project delivery

- Overcoming labour and material shortages
- Transportation Bottlenecks: Improving road, rail, and port connectivity for efficient delivery
- Strengthening stakeholder engagement to streamline logistics

14:00 **CLOSING REMARKS** | Closing remarks from the Chair

14:05 Lunch & End of Conference

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Connect and engage with your industry colleagues at the Townsville Summit

Explore Sponsorship & Exhibition options:

- Build relationships with potential and existing clients
- Generate leads from a high-level, targeted audience
- Close sales in a more personal manner than via phone
- Demonstrate your product in person
- Network with the industry
- Build brand awareness

Please contact **Valerie Pogrebizhsky**

Sponsorship Manager | Informa Australia

Direct: +61 (0)2 9080 4362

Email: Valerie.Pogrebizhsky@informa.com.au



The Townsville Summit

11 – 12 November 2026 | The Ville Resort-Casino, Townsville

Easy Ways to Register

1 Web
www.informa.com.au/townsvillesummit

2 Telephone
+61 (0)2 9080 4307 – Quoting P26R19

3 Email
info@informa.com.au – Quoting P26R19

Scan to Book



Stay Connected



#Informa_Energy

Pricing Details

Conference Package	PRICE	GST	TOTAL
Two day conference	\$2,695.00	\$269.50	\$2,964.50

VENUE DETAILS

The Ville Resort-Casino, Sir Leslie Thiess Dr, Townsville QLD 4810
Phone: +61 (07) 4722 2333, www.the-ville.com.au



For full terms and conditions, please visit:
www.informa.com.au/townsvillesummit

If undeliverable return to: PO BOX Q1439, SYDNEY NSW 1230

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA