

MEDIA RELEASE

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Council to showcase animal health approach at inaugural municipal expo

The success of Roper Gulf Regional Council's Animal Health Program will be in the spotlight when Local Governments from across the Top End converge on Katherine for the Northern Territory Municipal Operations Works Conference and Expo next week.

The inaugural event, which is being held on May 3 and 4 at the Katherine Showground, is being hosted by Katherine Town Council and the Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT), and will provide an opportunity to discuss the latest innovations in the delivery of municipal services, as well as keynote addresses on issues impacting Local Government in the NT.

Local Government plays a major role in the NT's economy, with 17 Councils collectively employing about 3000 Territorians as they receive and invest more than \$400 million every year.

More than 30 exhibitors will be in attendance at the expo and Katherine Town Council's Acting Director of Works and Services, David Moore, said it was hoped the event would overcome the tyranny of distance for many delegates by placing suppliers in front of buyers.

"To have this many exhibitors from all over Australia in one place for Council representatives to access is a unique opportunity that there's a definite need for," he said.

"In addition, there will be a range of speakers presenting on topics specific to Local Government at the conference."

Roper Gulf Regional Council Director of Council and Community Services Sharon Hillen will talk about the challenges involved with animal management in remote communities, and how the organisation has managed to record year-on-year improvements through the implementation of its Animal Health Program.

"Animal management in our remote towns is something the Council has had significant success with over the past few years, and we now have a full-time veterinarian on staff to spearhead our Animal Health Program," she explained.

"At the conference, I will be outlining how the Council tailored the program, and what was required to manage service delivery and community expectation.

“I congratulate Katherine Town Council and LGANT on coordinating this event, as it will give Local Governments in the region a chance to speak to experts and suppliers in a face-to-face environment that would have otherwise been impossible.”

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For further information, please contact the Communications Coordinator on 0427 674 212 or at roper.governance@ropergulf.nt.gov.au.