

Sunshine Coast First Nations Supplier Day

Event Summary

The inaugural Sunshine Coast First Nations Supplier Day was held on Monday, 15 November 2021. Hosted at First Nations business Beachtree Distilling Co. the event was delivered in partnership with the Advance Queensland business basics course, One Business and TAFE Queensland; National Indigenous Australians Agency, Unitywater, Shadforth and St Vincent de Paul.

The vision of the First Nations Supplier Day is to create a strong and resilient community which prioritises local First Nations businesses.

Pathways identified from Council's [Regional Economic Development Strategy](#) informed the program for the event, focusing on the high value industries of cultural tourism, environmental sustainability, community-driven business, innovative industries, clean technologies, and opportunities for the 2032 Olympic Games.

Council's [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) commitments further add value to Supplier Day by targeting an increase in First Nations supplier diversity to support improved economic and social outcomes, including developing commercial relationships with First Nations businesses and the creation of a First Nations Procurement Strategy.

Supplier Day brought together First Nations participants of the [One Business](#) course, the Sunshine Coast First Nations Accord and the broader Sunshine Coast community, establishing a platform to showcase local First Nations business. By introducing First Nations businesses with corporate procurement, the event provided an opportunity for networking and relationship nurturing.

Participants and audience members shared in local First Nations food, enjoyed First Nations performances and music, and shared business knowledge and expertise. With over 40 businesses and 200 attendees registered for the event the day saw pitches from local businesses, facilitated by One Business, presentations from First Nations experts and a panel discussion involving First Nations industry specialists.

The successes of the first Sunshine Coast First Nations Supplier Day continues to be built upon by embedding this as an annual event for the region.

