



**Keith Campbell will be re-nominating for Mayor of South Burnett at the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Local Government election**

When I nominated as Mayor four years ago, it was my intention to make myself available for two terms. For this reason I will be re-nominating as Mayor for South Burnett Regional Council at the forthcoming March 2020 Elections. Things are happening and when I look back on the past four years, I'm gratified that I've been able to preside over such significant development in the South Burnett.

Because of the trust and support of constituents over many years I have been able to combine my passion for serving the South Burnett, with continuing to utilise my career achievements in managing and driving forward large organisations.

It would be a great honour to continue as Mayor of the South Burnett and further deliver on several key initiatives that will set this wonderful region up for the next 20 years.

The achievements of the past four-year term has not come without pain and difficult decisions. It is very rewarding as Mayor to see the extensive development that has taken place and what is in the pipeline for the future. I personally read this as a vote of confidence by our *own* investors, and those from outside the South Burnett, that they believe it is a solid place for investment, and further, an endorsement of the direction that this Council has taken.

Many will recall that the highest complaints to Council four years ago were about roads. These days, that is no longer the case.

Notable progress under my leadership has seen Council delivering more efficiently and effectively major road improvements; improved financial stability, cost savings and debt reduction; progress with both state and federal governments with the water feasibility study moving towards recommendations for action and a number of new developments approved and so many others yet to be announced.

As I outlined in my 2016 campaign, my focus was going to be to stick to core local government responsibilities, why, because I am acutely aware that ratepayers and businesses pay from their hard-earned income whatever a Council commits to.

I want to continue delivering strong and disciplined management, provide leadership to the Council team and act always with integrity. It is from this strength that I see that we create a strong future for the next generation and beyond of South Burnett residents and investors.

For me, living within Council's financial capability is a non-negotiable. There are many projects and ideas that would be nice to have, but not able to be afforded. As I have moved around the region over the past four years listening to residents, myself and your Councillors respect our constituents position that Council must focus on essentials that ratepayers can afford, and that which creates the environment in which investors and others can build on to ensure the South Burnett remains a wonderful place to live, invest and work in.

A complete review of my current four year term as Mayor is able to be viewed on my website: [www.keithcampbell.com.au](http://www.keithcampbell.com.au)

### **My Next Term Top Priorities:**

- 1. Drive the outcomes of the Feasibility Study now underway, into securing water for agriculture, industry and urban growth.** *I have long spoken about the critical role water security and availability plays, and what having access to different sources of water means for our long term viability. It will help us grow more of what we are already known to produce. With access to regional, national and international ports to export our products, it is something I'm very passionate about building on in my second term. To this end I'm working closely with our neighbouring council, the North Burnett Regional Council and our regional group of Councils, the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Council's. All of us share the same passion, and together we are confident we can secure the support of government and others to deliver this essential ingredient for our future.*
- 2. Economic Development must be driven to achieve preferred outcomes. I will ensure that a new "Economic Development Plan" and "South Burnett Investment Ready" Prospectus is completed to complement our new Economic Strategy.** *This is a deep dive into our strengths and assets, and in one place assemble all the positive reasons why the South Burnett is the right place to expand, grow and do business. It will include every aspect of town planning and all the other elements that support new developments for industry and residential proponents. It will be designed with purpose and be supported with policies to accommodate the vision of our region for the future. Furthermore, it will identify the gaps in the issues of water for agricultural production, new industries and urban growth; it will take a look at ensuring that existing water supplies are sufficient to service existing towns and businesses; the current transport corridors are insufficient to accommodate vehicles with weigh loading limits that inhibit existing businesses let alone encourage new entrants; telecommunication improvement is a must; as is scheduling reserves of industrial land and housing lot developments. One of the really significant features of the South Burnett is its location and proximity to Brisbane, Wellcamp, Toowoomba, Sunshine Coast and Fraser Coast which will be given particular highlight.*
- 3. Kerbside Recycling and recycling more generally is inevitable. I will create an awareness and help build understanding that kerbside recycling is the legitimate**

next step for the Waste Services Department to implement for the South Burnett. **Governments of today are focused on a zero waste approach.**

4. **I will ensure that the Roads Program is continually monitored** to achieve promised outcomes and improvements to rural unpaved gravel roads. I believe we have accumulated the truth about our roads. We know what has to be done. I agree with the approach implemented to FIX THE ROADS. I consider it a personal achievement to have taken some bold steps in order to rectify the roads problem.
5. **Technology and Telecommunications are essential in order to attract new business and satisfy the needs of existing business.** I will continue to work diligently to ensure the removal of black spots from our Telecommunication networks.
6. **No one is able to secure the best possible results without a strong team** to work with. I trust the judgement of ratepayers to select Councillor Candidates from each of the six (6) Divisions who are committed to a stronger South Burnett. Together with them, the Chief Executive Officer and General Managers, I will lobby and advocate with State and Federal Politicians as well as work with our businesses and ratepayers in the region to invest in and support the South Burnett's goals. Together, we can make the difference that the South Burnett is ready and deserving for transformed economic growth.
7. **I will represent the views of our South Burnett residents in relation to the need for appropriate Medical Services. I refer to primary and secondary health services together with allied health needs.** Our health is a number one priority. It is essential to ensure that the our present residents, together with those who move to live in the South Burnett find the doctor they need to make them feel secure in that their health will be looked after. I am aware that there are currently shortages of Doctors in some locations. People want to ensure they have 'their doctor' to look after their health needs. The reputation of the South Burnett in terms of providing this essential is a matter I take very seriously. Quality schooling, retail activity and leisure activities fall into a similar category in that it all adds to the quality of life we enjoy in the South Burnett.
8. **I will provide strong, firm and positive leadership and work with a team who will connect with the direction and purpose of the previous four year term of Council.** I want to ensure that we as a team develop policy to achieve and deliver the best results for the benefit of the South Burnett's continued growth and long term sustainability.

## EXPERIENCE MATTERS:

I am very grateful that I was able to serve as a Councillor for 9 years, as well as Deputy Mayor for a period of 8 years before being elected as Mayor. That investment of time has served me well in having a strong understanding and skills required for the position Mayor as well as affording me the opportunity to build important relationships, especially those that position the South Burnett well with Government Officials and other leaders. I have learned the business of Local Government from the grassroots to the top, and am well qualified to further represent the interests of the entire South Burnett.

It takes time to absorb the needs of each individual community in the region and understand what is important to residents. I have been fortunate to meet so many people across the South Burnett and would hope to meet many more should I be successful at the March 2020 election.

The role of Mayor requires a deep understanding of the Local Government Act and Regulations, Policy and Procedures such as is acquired by first spending time as a divisional Councillor. While this is not mandatory if the Mayor or Councillors conduct has not served the values and priorities of constituents, I trust that the community has an appreciation of the work completed by this term of office. Investors have demonstrated ongoing confidence; endorsement has been provided by our Government overseers – Queensland Treasury Corporation and Queensland Audit Office; and electors have respected the many capacities of Council's operations that have improved, such that it will see the benefit of continuing with a Mayor that has demonstrated local government experience.

I'm confident you will choose well at the 2020 Local Government Elections– because 'demonstrated experience matters'. The quality of the candidate you choose for each division also matters, just as much as choosing the best candidate for Mayor.

***I remain totally committed to serving the South Burnett. I will continue to commit myself 100% to the responsibility and honour of the position of Mayor.***