



State of the  
Region Summit

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## 2008 State of the Region Summit Announced

### Big Region - Big Plans – Big News

The first in a series of four major regional Queensland business summits, sponsored by St. George Bank, will be held on 6 November 2008 at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

“While this is the fourth State of the Region Summit to be held here on the Sunshine Coast and will again deliver original research and lively discussion on topics crucial to the growth of this region, it will be the first to also focus similar attention in other Queensland growth areas” said David Gratton, Conference Project Manager.

“With more than 200 attendees last year, the real key to the success of the previous State of the Region Summits has been their capacity to generate practical and open business/government discussions and create pathways to solving some of the significant problems the region faces as it rapidly grows. This is not a talkfest, but a day filled with challenging ideas and practical solutions.”



“In the coming year we are taking this home grown idea and running similar events in other major Queensland regional centres such as Townsville, Cairns and the Gold Coast,” Mr Gratton said.



“The expansion of the Summit series has been made possible through the financial support of such major national companies as St. George Bank, sponsors of the first Summit series, as well as support from a wide array of major local companies sponsoring and participating in the Sunshine Coast Summit,” Mr Gratton said.





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“St.George Bank is both delighted and committed to supporting and extending the State of the Region Summits to key regional centres in Queensland as they give local business operators the chance to openly discuss regional challenges and opportunities with their peers,” said Robert Phelps, QLD State Manager, St.George Institutional & Business Banking division.

“While the support of national companies shows that the State of the Region Summit is now well regarded nationally, regional and local sponsors have also played an crucial part in the continuing success of the event,” Mr Gratton said

“Investa is pleased to be sponsoring the State of the Region Summit for the fourth year running and we look forward to bringing together key regional decision-makers to discuss the critical economic, social and environmental issues facing the newly amalgamated Sunshine Coast region,” said Michael Hopkins, Development Manager for Investa.

Major Sunshine Coast law firm Munro Thompson Lawyers, leading planning and project management firm Parsons Brinckerhoff and the University of the Sunshine Coast are also sponsoring the event. Sunshine Coast Mayor Bob Abbott has already agreed to play a key part in the conference with other key local and interstate speakers to be announced shortly.

Check the Summit website <http://www.stateoftheregion.com.au/> for developing information.

ENDS

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