



VOLUNTEERING NORTH QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE AND AWARDS



"Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help."

Heather French Henry



CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Volunteering North Queensland Conference and Awards (VNQCA) is a first of its kind in our region. It is a conference style weekend retreat for volunteers serving in local communities to be revitalised through inspirational speakers, practical workshops and wrapping up with a gala evening announcing The Volunteer of the Year Awards. Not only is it a weekend to uplift and upskill, but a time to say thank you and celebrate!

VISION AND MISSION

From the reef to the outback, North Queenslanders are well known for their staunch community support and volunteering. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, regional areas such as Townsville are more likely to have higher numbers of volunteers than capital cities however, locally, there has been a decline in numbers over the last few years.

Our vision is to revitalise grassroots volunteers; the backbone of community groups, organisations and events, to see communities rich in volunteers and volunteering. Our mission is to host an annual volunteers conference and The Volunteer of the Year Awards for the greater North Queensland region with the vision for the event to be hosted in neighboring towns from 2022. We are also introducing 'Project 2022' with the aim of engaging new volunteers with a focus to capture youth.

"From a sporting point of view, without volunteers in grassroots and elite sports, things would be very different. Whether it's coaching a team, washing uniforms, marking lines, first aid or the canteen, volunteers make all these crucial roles possible."

Jeff Reibel, CEO North Queensland Cowboys

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

A large range of keynote speakers who are experts in their field, including Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIO's), local government representatives, Mayors and other special guest speakers are invited to showcase the influential role they play in volunteer communities.

Volunteering sometimes comes at a physical, emotional or relational cost which leads to volunteer fatigue. The VNQCA centres around five event pillars:

- 01 REFRESHING** people holistically though building connection
- 02 RESTORING** vision and hope for the future through keynote speakers
- 03 RE-EQUIPPING** with practical tools and new skills to ease the workload
- 04 REVITALISING** volunteers to strengthen their capacity for social impact
- 05 REWARDING** through The North Queensland Volunteer of the Year Awards

Upon conclusion, conference participants will leave with a personalised action plan, resources and new supportive relationships that will continue in an on-line community. The weekend conference will attract 200-300 participants from all around our region.

WHO IS VOLUNTEERING NORTH QUEENSLAND (VNQ)?

VNQ is the leading Volunteer Resource Hub based in Townsville. We have proudly been established for over 30 years, working with thousands of volunteers and currently have 115 member companies. VNQ connects individuals, corporates and groups of volunteers with varied volunteer opportunities. Our services extend south to the Burdekin, north to Hinchinbrook and as far west as Mount Isa.