



MEDIA RELEASE
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Open season for North Queensland Tourism Awards

Townsville Enterprise is calling for nominations for the 2009 Townsville Airport North Queensland Tourism Awards.

There are 26 categories on offer in this year's awards process – with three special categories falling outside the normal nomination process.

The 26 standard categories are in line with those on offer in the Queensland and Australian Tourism Awards.

The three special categories include an award for volunteers or a volunteer group, a young achiever award and the Richard Power award for the most outstanding contribution by an individual.

Expressions of interest for nominations close on the 29th of May with submissions due on Friday the 7th of August. The gala awards night will be held on the 12th of September.

Townsville Airport General Manager Kevin Gill said the airport was pleased to come on board as naming rights sponsor for the third year in a row.

“As the gateway to the North Queensland region, we see this sponsorship as a natural fit for us.

“The Townsville region has never been more accessible than it is right now, with Virgin Blue commencing four new direct services to Townsville from the Gold Coast, Canberra, Rockhampton and Cairns earlier this month.

“The tourism industry in Townsville has much to be proud of and we are once again proud to be naming rights sponsor,” Mr Gill said.

Townsville Enterprise Chief Executive Officer Trevor Goldstone said he was looking forward to this year's North Queensland Tourism Awards and expected the competition to be fierce.

"Having just arrived in North Queensland I'm thrilled to see the wide variety of tourism products available – and the quality of those products."

"I'm really looking forward to my first North Queensland Tourism Awards event – the reputation of these events precede them and I have no doubt this year will live up to the high standard set in the past."

"We're thrilled to have the Townsville Airport on board as the major sponsor of the event once more – and we will release more information about the night itself in coming months."

"Right now we'd really like to see all our eligible operators – members and non-members – put themselves forward for an award," Mr Goldstone said.

List of Categories:

Major Tourist Attractions
Tourist Attractions
Major Festivals and Events
Festivals and Events
Ecotourism
Heritage and Cultural Tourism
Indigenous Tourism
Specialised Tourism Services
Visitor Information and Services
Meetings and Business Tourism
Major Tour and Transport Operators
Tour and Transport Operators
Adventure Tourism
Tourism Marketing
Tourism Education and Training
Tourism Restaurants and Catering Services
Tourism Wineries, Distilleries and Boutique Breweries
Tourist and Caravan Parks
Backpacker Accommodation
Hosted Accommodation
Unique Accommodation
Standard Accommodation
Deluxe Accommodation
Luxury Accommodation
New Tourism Development
Award for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism

ENDS

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