

Office News Report – August 2015

Good afternoon folks,

Another busy and productive month for HOPE.



(Frank at TCLF event, 9 August 2015)

We held a community forum on Sustainable Forest Management on 1 August; and provided information displays for the Toowoomba Languages and Cultures Festival (9 Aug) and the U3A Seniors Expo (19 Aug). All events were well patronised.

A big thanks to all of the agencies who provided literature for these events and those held earlier in the year – especially Toowoomba's Gardenfest held on 9-10 May. The materials were well received by event attendees.

September is shaping up to be another busy month with a community forum on 5th promoting Sustainable House Day; our quarterly Ordinary Meeting on 12th; and the Toowoomba leg of the Youth Leading the World (YLtW) Congress on 14th – 16th. All are welcome to attend these events

Regards,

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135, office@hopeaustralia.org.au

Annual Pledge/Donation - <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/annual-pledgedonation/>

We invite members and supporters to consider making an annual financial contribution to help cover our operating costs of approximately \$20,500 p.a.

Currently, our income is derived from project grants, fund-raising, corporate sponsorship and donations, but falls well short of our requirements.

Your financial support, by way of an annual pledge or donation, will considerably help us to achieve better financial viability.

POSITIONS VACANT

Due to the recent departures of key committee and admin support staff, we are in urgent need of extra personnel to fill the following vacancies:

- Vice President - duties include chairing meetings; and provide media comment projects, campaigns and general activities
- Website Manager - maintain 'freshness' of website by doing regular maintenance; and sourcing new material
- Admin support – various tasks from helping with internet research, article writing, media support and staffing of information displays, etc. at community events
- State Liaison Officers to be responsible for promoting HOPE in their jurisdictions
- Newsletter Team to solicit and/or write articles – with the editor compiling the newsletter
- Media Team to prepare media releases, community service announcements, date claimers, etc.; and to assist with research and writing (feature) articles
- Website Manager to keep information up-to-date
- Librarian – to complete the cataloguing of our resources; and to undertake weekly maintenance updates

So, if you have some spare time and talents to offer, please give the office a call on 07 4639 2135 or email office@hopeaustralia.org.au .

Community Forum: Sustainable House Day – Saturday, 5 September 2015

HOPE is facilitating the Toowoomba activities for this nation-wide event, with a mixture of sustainable 'Open House' sites (homes and gardens, facilities) for residents to visit as well as a Community Forum featuring speakers on sustainable building design, renewable energy and landscaping.

In the morning of Saturday 5 September, facilities open to the public include a sustainable house and gardens at 210 West Street, Toowoomba and Excel Solar's *Solar Farm 7SD* located at lots 24-25 Croft Crescent, Toowoomba.

If you too would like to open your sustainable house/garden or business premises on the 5 September, please contact the HOPE office by Friday 21 August.

The afternoon component of *Sustainable House Day* is a community forum being held at the Dr Price Room, 6 Little St, Toowoomba, from 4pm to 6pm.

Speakers include Ms. Joanne Galea from the Building Designers Association of Queensland (BDAQ), Mr Terry Davis from Excel Solar and Mr Jerry Coleby-Williams from Gardening Australia.

For further information and/or to register your interest in participating in Toowoomba's *Sustainable House Day* event on Saturday 5 September, please contact the HOPE office on ph: 07 4639 2135 or email: office@hopeaustralia.org.au . Admission to both activities are FREE of charge – but bookings are essential.

HOPE Ordinary Meeting – Saturday 12, September 2015

HOPE's quarterly get-together is at the HOPE office and home of Frank & Mary Ondrus, 22 Vacy St, Toowoomba commencing at 10am sharp. Morning tea is provided. Please RSVP by 11 September to assist with catering and seating arrangements. A copy of the meeting's agenda will be issued by the end of August.

Toowoomba leg of Youth Leading the World (YLtW) Congress, 14-16 September 2015

Toowoomba's 2nd *OzGreen "Youth Leading the World (YLTW) Congress"* is a 3 day intensive process with Youth which explore local and global issues of sustainability, measure and understand their own eco-footprint, and work on action plans to make changes in their lives, schools and communities.

Students from secondary schools throughout the region are welcome to attend this free event being hosted by Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC), Amaroo Environmental Education Centre (EEC) and HOPE.

Registration forms are available from Mr. Cam Mackenzie, Principal - Amaroo EEC, email cmack18@eq.edu.au .

Where: The Cedar Centre, Baker Street, Toowoomba (southern side of University of Southern Queensland (USQ) Campus)

Who: Environmentally-minded students from year 10-12

Costs: Free! Students will need to get to and from the congress and provide their own food on day 1 and 2.

Community Forum – Wednesday, 16 September 2015

Alison Dickson Lecture Theatre - 1:30-2:30pm

University of Southern Queensland Campus, West St, Toowoomba

Come, Listen, Be Inspired!

Invitation to government, local business, Indigenous leaders, community members and parents.

Contact Cam via cmack18@eq.edu.au for more information or to RSVP (by September 15) for catering purposes.
