

# Community Investment Fund

*Investing in Far North  
Queensland communities*



Ports North



# Connecting Communities, Powering Possibilities

At Ports North, we do more than manage ports—we help shape the future of Far North Queensland. From Cairns to the Torres Strait and across the Cape, we operate nine regional and remote ports that are vital to the lives, livelihoods, and growth of the communities we serve.

We're proud to be one of Australia's most diverse port operators, supporting a wide range of industries—from trade and transport to tourism, marine services, and defence. Our strategic presence allows us to create real economic opportunity while supporting social and environmental sustainability.

Whether it's enabling children to get to school by ferry in the Torres Strait, supporting local businesses through tourism and superyacht arrivals in Cairns, or helping remote communities export vital resources to the world—our work connects people and places with purpose.

We're deeply invested in the future of our region. That means maintaining and upgrading essential infrastructure, attracting investment and industry, and working hand-in-hand with communities to unlock long-term benefits.

We believe in enabling possibility—for families, businesses, and the future of Far North Queensland.





# The Community Investment Fund

Supporting and investing in the communities and people who make Far North Queensland thrive is important to us. Our Community Investment Fund is designed to support local projects that build stronger, safer, and more connected communities.

Through this fund, is designed to empower individuals and organisations working to make a real difference. Funding supports initiatives that:



Build skills and capability in maritime and related industries

Improve community safety, health, and wellbeing



Preserve and promote cultural heritage and customs



Protect and enhance our unique natural environment



# Community Investment Opportunities

We're committed to supporting initiatives that make a real difference in the regions where we operate. When reviewing applications, we will prioritise those that meet the following key criteria:

## 1. Support for Our Local Regions



We give priority to projects that directly benefit the areas where Ports North operates. This includes Cairns, Mourilyan, Karumba, the Torres Strait Islands, Cape Flattery, Skardon River, Quintell Beach, Burketown, and Cooktown.

## 2. Boost Economic Opportunities and Community Connections



We're looking for initiatives that improve financial skills, open up job or business opportunities, or strengthen community support networks.

## 3. Create Sustainable and Long-Term Impact



As most funding will be one-off, we encourage projects that will continue to deliver benefits beyond the life of the funding, without relying on ongoing support from Ports North.





# What We Fund

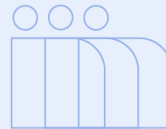
We're looking to support projects that aim to achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

## **Build Skills in Maritime and Related Industries**



Example: Training programs, tools, or equipment that help individuals or groups gain the skills needed for work or entrepreneurship in the maritime sector.

## **Improve Community Safety and Wellbeing**



Example: Volunteer-led initiatives, education campaigns, or support programs that help make communities safer and healthier.

## **Strengthen Cultural Connections**



Example: Events, storytelling, or awareness campaigns that promote understanding of First Nations cultures or celebrate cultural diversity in our communities.

## **Protect Our Natural Environment**



Example: Environmental projects or research that help preserve local wildlife, improve biodiversity, and protect air, land, and sea quality.

# Eligibility Criteria

## Eligible applicants:

- Individual Australian residents.
- Not-for-profit organisations: located in & providing services in Queensland, holding an ABN, with an Australian bank account (corresponding to the ABN).

## Application process:

- Applications should complete the [application form](#) including why the funding is important to their community.
- Applications should include details or quotes for the specific products, services or initiatives that are required.
- Ports North reserves the right to issue funding based on the priorities outlined above without protest by applicants.

## Priority considerations:

- Funding will positively impact people or organisations based in the regions surrounding and including Cairns, Mourilyan, Karumba, the Torres Strait Islands, Cape Flattery, Skardon River, Quintell Beach, Burketown and Cooktown.
- Benefits will support improved economic, social or environmental outcomes, especially for disadvantaged or marginalised community members.
- The applicant agrees to participate in the public promotion of the potential funding by providing or participating in photos and testimonials.

## Ineligible funding requests.

- Current employees, contractors or shareholders of Ports North and related entities.
- Applications that are perceived to be supporting a political or religious message.
- Ongoing organisational costs such as insurance, rent, power or employee salaries.
- Ongoing personal costs such as subscriptions, contracted services or memberships.
- Alcohol, tobacco, adult entertainment or related products and services.
- Cash donations including prize money, scholarship or sponsorship.
- Products or services that will generate ongoing commercial gain.
- Activities that damage or harm the environment.
- Benefits that will be realised outside of Australia.

# How To Apply

Applications can be submitted by completing a simple electronic [form](#). Applications close Tuesday 30 September 2025.

If you cannot complete the online form, contact [enquiries@portsnorth.comm.au](mailto:enquiries@portsnorth.comm.au) or phone 07 4052 3830. Special arrangements may be made depending on your needs.

## **Funding recipients:**

We'll contact successful recipients in late November 2025 via phone or email.

## **Unsuccessful applications:**

All unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email, unless otherwise arranged, by late October 2025. It's difficult to know that some will miss out, but it would be unreasonable for us to support every application. We won't be providing details about the outcome of our decisions.

## **Awarding funds:**

We will issue funds by way of purchasing one or more agreed products, services or initiatives as agreed.

Ports North will make purchases on behalf of recipients up to the value of \$15,000. This will be a one-off purchase and not intended as an ongoing funding source.

## **Funding will be used for the products, services or initiatives outlined in the application.**

If your circumstances change or you need to adjust your application after lodgment, you will need to contact [enquiries@portsnorth.comm.au](mailto:enquiries@portsnorth.comm.au) or phone 07 4052 3830.



# Additional Information

## **Privacy notice**

Ports North collects personal information provided by you to manage the distribution of Community Investment Funds. Your information may be disclosed to employees, partner organisations or external industry specialists to assess your application.

Your personal information is managed as outlined in our Privacy Statement available at [portsnorth.com.au/about-us/release-of-information](https://portsnorth.com.au/about-us/release-of-information).

## **Promoting your cause**

Community Investment Fund recipients will also benefit from promotional opportunities created by Ports North. These opportunities will be a chance to share your story, inspire others to support your cause, or generate awareness about community issues.

We may promote your story with our employees, partners, clients and communities.

When you submit an application, you consent to Ports North referencing non-personal information to promote the funded activities.

We may also request you take part in media opportunities, such as photos, interviews or a media release.

## **Contact information**

If you have feedback about how we can make the application process easier, please contact us.

[enquiries@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:enquiries@portsnorth.com.au)

07 4052 3830

# Apply now for funding up to \$10,000.

## Key Dates

*Applications open: 21 July 2025*

*Applications close: Tuesday 30 September 2025*

*Successful applicants notified: By November 2025*

## Further Information

*[portsnorth.com.au](https://portsnorth.com.au)*

*For assistance with your application:*

*[enquiries@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:enquiries@portsnorth.com.au)*

*07 4052 3830*

