MAYORAL MINUTE

a1   [MM-CM] Mayoral Minute Murwillumbah TAFE

SUBMITTED BY: Cr K Milne, Mayor

Valid

Civic Leadership

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

1	Civic Leadership
1.2	Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
1.2.2	Decisions made relating to the allocation of priorities will be in the long-term interests of the community

Councillors

Background

At the meeting held 29 February 2016 a number of community members formed a consortium in regard to concerns about the loss of TAFE in Murwillumbah. A representative of North Coast TAFE was in attendance at the meeting and advised that the sale of Murwillumbah TAFE building was imminent.

Council's Economic Development Strategy has identified the creative arts as a key economic opportunity for Murwillumbah. The meeting determined that the TAFE building has the potential to manifest this economic opportunity, building on the success of the Art Gallery, and cement the Arts as a national and international economic driver for the town.

It was agreed at the meeting that due to the extensive arts facilities the TAFE building should be retained as an Arts and education centre. It was highlighted that $4M of public funds had recently been invested in the building and arts facilities.

The meeting resolved to:

1.   Seek a 3 month deferral of the sale of the building by TAFE NSW,

2.   Seek funds to develop a business case for an Arts Centre, ideally to facilitate the continued use of TAFE, and

3.   Submit a Business proposal to TAFE NSW.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor writes to Mr Thomas George, Member for Lismore and request him to use his best endeavours to have the sale of the Murwillumbah TAFE building be deferred to allow community members an opportunity to submit a Business Plan to TAFE NSW, with a view to utilising the building for a dedicated Arts Centre and with dual use for TAFE purposes or other education opportunities.

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UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.