

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA

Thursday 23 July 2020

Isisford Town Hall, 22 St Mary Street, Isisford

LATE ITEMS

15. Late Items

15.1 Special Holiday 20201

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15.1 - Special Holiday 2020

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15.1 Special Holiday 2020

File Ref:

Consideration of a new application to the Queensland Government for a Special Holiday in 2020.

Council Action

Partner

Applicable Legislation

Holidays Act 1983

Policy Considerations

Not applicable

Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

Not applicable

Budget Considerations

Not applicable

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

(Res-2019-06-137)

Moved Cr Smith seconded Cr Martin

That pursuant to section 4 of the Holidays Act 1983, the Office of Industrial Relations be advised that Council:

- 1. Seeks to nominate Wednesday, 9 September 2020 as its Show Holiday for the Isisford area only (Postcode 4731) to allow the community to attend the Westech Field Days, Barcaldine, which only occur every three (3) years;*
- 2. Approaches the Longreach Show Society Inc to reconsider their position against having the Longreach Show Holiday in May 2020, due to the submissions received from the Community, and seeks their endorsement of the Annual Show Holiday to occur on Friday 15 May 2020 for the Longreach and Ilfracombe areas of the Longreach Region; and*
- 3. Should the Longreach Show Society Inc decline the request that Council nominate Wednesday, 9 September 2020 as the Show Holiday for the whole Longreach Region to allow the community to attend the Westech Field Days, Barcaldine, which only occur every three (3) years.*

Officer Comment

Responsible Officer/s: *Mitchell Murphy, Chief Executive Officer*

Background:

Due to Covid-19 the set Show Public Holiday for the region in 2020 was repealed because 'Westech', the agricultural event it was aligned to, has been cancelled.

Issue:

In response to community feedback, Council is asked to consider making a new application to the Queensland Government requesting 9 September 2020 be gazetted a 'special holiday' for the region. This date has been selected as time constraints do not allow for further community consultation; it is therefore recommended Council apply for a special holiday to be assigned to the previously selected date.

15. LATE ITEMS

15.1 - Special Holiday 2020

Unless they are aligned to an annual agricultural, horticultural, or industrial show, these special holidays are known as ‘bank’ holidays and are not public holidays.

The difference between a public holiday and a bank holiday in relation to show/special holidays is:

- **Public Holiday** - Paid day off or penalty rates apply if required to work during a gazetted annual agricultural, horticultural, or industrial show.
- **Bank Holiday** - Traditionally applies to the financial industry or public service as a paid day off. If an agreement is in place between an employer and employees, Bank Holidays can be treated as a Public Holiday for all purposes. However, if no agreement is in place, the day is treated as a standard work day with no penalty rates.

The opportunity to nominate a Public Holiday in 2020 has lapsed due to a combination of factors which include the lack of an agricultural, horticultural, or industrial event, legislative requirements, and the upcoming Queensland General Election.

It should also be noted, if the recommendation is adopted, Council will write to the Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations who will then assess the application, and has sole discretion to grant our request. If the request is granted, the Special holiday will not be official until notice is published in the Queensland Government gazettes.

Risk Management Factors:

This matter has been assessed using Council’s Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood: Unlikely
Consequence: Minor
Rating: Low (4)

Environmental Management Factors:

Not applicable

Other Comments:

In previous years, where the Melbourne Cup was allocated the ‘show’ holiday for the region, the day was deemed a ‘special (bank) holiday’; because it did not align with an agricultural, horticultural or industrial show.

Recommendation:

That Council applies to the Queensland Government’s Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations to nominate 9 September 2020 as a ‘Special Holiday’ for the region.