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CALLING FOR TWEED'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST TO CREATE A THRIVING COMMUNITY

MEDIA RELEASE
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Wanted: Established and emerging leaders who can work collaboratively, share enthusiasm for the Tweed and northern New South Wales and are willing to dedicate time and expertise to create a thriving and prosperous community.

The team, working as Community Connectors, will identify regional challenges and solutions as part of the Cudgen Connection Community Engagement Program (CCCEP), a structured initiative designed to deliver meaningful and measurable outcomes.

Connectors will be dedicated volunteers who commit about three hours a fortnight to meetings, working groups and forums during a six-month period starting from March 2022. The Connectors team will also help design a 900 square metre community hub and determine how it can be successfully used by local not-for-profits and community groups.

The hub will be donated to the community and operated by not-for-profits and community groups at no cost to those groups or taxpayers. It lies at the heart of Cudgen Connection, a newly proposed precinct that will deliver health, education and community services, jobs and housing for essential workers on the Tweed Coast.

The Tweed faces similar challenges to other regional communities in job creation, youth engagement, the provision of mental health and suicide prevention services, affordable housing, health choices and better public transport, to name a few.

Allan Larkin, Digital Infratech Director, said "We're looking for community minded people with knowledge and extended networks to tell us what they believe are the greatest challenges facing the area and to collectively use their expertise to help evolve solutions to address these challenges.

"We know there are some exceptional people doing exceptional work out there. The basis of this concept is to get everyone to work together - let's all pull the same rope in the same direction and help address real issues the community is facing."

Mr Larkin added that the Connectors will represent a range of community, business and special interest groups; local, state and federal bodies; and public officers to ensure all the decision makers are represented.

"In this COVID-impacted environment, we are going to see an increasing range of issues. If we get the experts and the decision makers all in the one room we can move forward relatively quickly with real solutions," Mr Larkin said.

"We will provide the space, environment and a supported framework to work towards solutions and we want leaders in the community who are willing to work with a team and share their experience."

**Apply to become a Community Connector at the Cudgen Connection
website www.cudgenconnection.com or email gday@cudgenconnection.com**

**For more information contact, Libby Callister
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