

RECOGNITION FOR A JOB WELL DONE

Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) congratulates **Main Roads Heritage Centre**, one of nine museums and galleries from Southern Inland Queensland who have completed a challenging year-long program assessing their existing practices and policies against the **National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries**.

Reviewers, Ian Jempson and Josh Tarrant, who played a vital role in providing professional advice and assistance throughout the program, free of charge, congratulated the **Main Roads Heritage Centre** saying,

'The Main Roads Heritage Centre are commended for their participation in, and contribution to, the Standards Program in order to benchmark their operation against national standards'.

They praised the **Main Roads Heritage Centre** saying,

'The facility is very well managed, the professionally designed displays are to a very high standard and the Main Roads Heritage Centre team is keen to undertake audience development.'

The Main Roads Heritage Centre, home to 88 years of road history in Queensland, exhibits and interprets the rich history and culture of a government department and its contribution to the rural, economic and social development of Queensland.

The Centre has developed an important collection covering all facets of the department throughout its lifetime, and includes items from general administration and design drafting through to material that tells the story of the Department's involvement with the Allied Works Council during World War Two. The collection and displays also covers themes such as soil testing, road camps, uniform, road signs, explosives, surveying, the Nundah workshops - its social welfare club and mateship.

The Main Roads Heritage Centre has an active skilled volunteer base, largely drawn from a pool of ex-departmental staff, involved in bringing the collection to life through the restoration of a number of 'show piece' vehicles, indicative of types owned and used by the department, and the reconstruction of structures found in many road camps based on official designs held in the collection.

With the encouragement of the Standards Program, the Main Roads Heritage Centre are planning a dedicated education program aimed at primary school students. Audience development is a high priority for the Main Roads Heritage Centre and this action plan will assist them to meet their education mission to share the history of Main Roads with the community, including this key group.

Deborah Meyer, Heritage Coordinator, Main Roads Heritage Centre explained what they gained from participating in the Standards program:

'The Standards process enabled us to critically review our general museum practices as well as our newly developed exhibitions and ask for critical review from our peers in return. The incredibly positive feedback served as welcome recognition for a job well done.'

In 2010 the Museum Standards Program will be offered by M&GSQ in the Brisbane metro and surrounding regions.

Full program information is available at
http://www.magsq.com.au/01_cms/details.asp?ID=509

The Museum profile and print quality images from the Museum and event are attached.
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IMAGE CAPTIONS:

Image 1 - Main Roads Heritage Centre with their certificate of recognition

L-R: Mayor Peter Taylor (Toowoomba Regional Council), Deborah Meyer, Heritage Coordinator, Main Roads Heritage Centre - Maria Tegan, Principal Environmental Officer, Dept. Transport and Main Roads - Karen Barrett, Project Officer, Main Roads Heritage Centre

Photo Acknowledgement – Bruce Cowell

Image 2 – Main Roads Heritage Centre

Photo Acknowledgement - Main Roads Heritage Centre 2009

Image 3 - Inside the Main Gallery - a glimpse of early road construction

Photo Acknowledgement - Main Roads Heritage Centre 2008

Image 4 - Toowoomba Home Schooling Group

Photo Acknowledgement - Main Roads Heritage Centre 2009

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