Innovation Centre

The Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast, a University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) company, aims to create new jobs in emerging high-growth industries for the Sunshine Coast region.

To date, the Innovation Centre has supported the start-up and growth of more than 125 businesses, creating around 450 jobs and raising in excess of $30 million for its network of entrepreneurs.

Located on the edge of the USC campus, the Innovation Centre currently works with more than 30 private companies in the ICT, clean technology and health technology industries and offers world-class business support for entrepreneurs and growing companies.

The Innovation Centre facility includes a Business Incubator and Accelerator which provide serviced offices, high-speed fibre connections, mentoring support, investment readiness and networking for both start-up and growth businesses.

A 2013 Google e-Town award identified the Sunshine Coast as Queensland’s most tech-savvy region, and the Innovation Centre aims to nurture and develop a community of like-minded entrepreneurs in a wide range of technology- and knowledge-based industries. In fact, in 2010 Singapore’s CNBC Business magazine called the Innovation Centre ‘Australia’s no worries answer to Silicon Valley’.

FAST FACTS

- Helped entrepreneurs raise more than $30 million
- Graduated more than 125 start-up businesses
- Created around 450 jobs
- Access to approximately 12,000 students at the University of the Sunshine Coast
- Named one of the top 5 regional university-based incubators worldwide by the global University Business Incubator Index (2013)
- Described as Australia’s no worries answer to Silicon Valley.

THREE REASONS TO INVEST ON THE SUNSHINE COAST

1. Population growth expected to exceed 450,000 by 2033 and more than 30,000 local businesses needing education and training services.

2. $60.8 million Skills, Academic and Research Centre to be developed alongside the new $5 billion Kawana Health Campus and surrounding precinct.

3. Increased need for education and training in the development and delivery of 100,000 high value jobs.
Why the Sunshine Coast is perfect for education and research businesses...

- Home to a nationally awarded University and some of Queensland’s highest performing private schools.
- The region’s education sector currently exceeds the size of those in areas with a similar sized population and is predicted to grow by 50% by 2033.
- More than 60,000 students are currently studying at local schools, University or one of the 180 registered training institutions.
- Development of a $60.8 million Skills, Academic and Research Centre to help students transition from studying healthcare into the workforce and providing a strong linkage between the University and healthcare industry for research purposes.
- High speed broadband available across the Sunshine Coast and many suburbs currently being connected to the National Broadband Network.
- Strong support from Sunshine Coast Council and the development of an Industry Investment Plan to help further develop and grow the education and research industry.

The Sunshine Coast is a place where innovative businesses can grow and flourish by tapping into local talent, business mentors, funding and excellent research facilities.

MARK PADDENBURG
CEO, Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast

HOW THE SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL CAN HELP

- Financial assistance to help offset various establishment costs.
- A single point of service to facilitate connections with government bodies.
- Tailored package of comparative information to assist in your decision.
- Customised site selection assistance and relocation advice.
- Access to key international market information and industry development.
- Successful track record of helping investors move to the Sunshine Coast.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Go to www.invest.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au or email invest@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au or call the Coordinator of Investment Attraction on +617 5475 9958.