



JIM TURNOUR MP
Federal Member for Leichhardt

CAIRNS OFFICE
Phone (07) 4051 2220 Fax (07) 4031 1592
140C Mulgrave Road Cairns Qld 4870

THURSDAY ISLAND OFFICE
Phone (07) 4069 1393 Fax (07) 4069 1822
Corner Douglas & Blackall Streets Thursday Island Qld 4875

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO
PO Box 2794 Cairns Qld 4870

Email jim.turnour.mp@aph.gov.au Web www.jimturnour.com.au

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

As the Federal Member for Leichhardt, I am proud to support the Australasian Permaculture Convergence (APC 10 – 2010) to be hosted in Tropical North Queensland in September 2010. This will be the first time Permaculture Convergence has been held in the Tropical North.

The event is expected to attract 300 people to our region to engage in a stimulating program of workshops, presentations and discussions to find solutions and responses to the multifarious sets of challenges posed by Climate Change and Peak Oil. Throughout their stay, delegates will be encouraged to visit the natural assets our region is famous for, in particular the Great Barrier Reef and World Heritage listed rainforests.

The Convergence will draw Australian and international experts to the region to fulfil a number of aims. These include providing opportunities to:

- Skill, educate and prepare communities with practical pathways to step up permaculture knowledge in local communities around Australasia;
- Identify projects that are working, that will need to be designed, and ways to assist current or planned projects with better design solutions within regions; and
- Produce a written statement of collected practical design solutions, for the permaculture and broader community to utilize when working within regional contexts, government and with community leaders across a broad range of topics from water management, energy and food production, to education, health and wellbeing.

The 4 day programme is both interactive and stimulating. A full breadth of speakers from across the region and the local expertise, including our Indigenous communities, will be present. Entertainers, workshops and farm tours are being prepared to strengthen the network, expand the knowledge boundaries and skill up participants with strategies that have over 30 years of the movement's collective experience.

Whether you are a long-time Permaculturalist or someone new to the concept, I commend APC10 to you all. I am looking forward to participating in this forward-focussed movement and wish you every success with APC10 - 2010 – may it be a productive and inspiring experience for all of you.

Yours faithfully

Jim Turnour MP
Federal Member for Leichhardt

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