

# **Special message**

Welcome to <u>Queensland Small Business Month</u> for 2025! This year we have a great program for our local small and family businesses to take part in, to *Recharge, Renew and Rebuild*.

We're backing our more than 495,000 small businesses across the state. It's great to see local councils, chambers of commerce, industry partners and other government organisations hosting events throughout the month to support small businesses.

You can network at breakfast events, attend an expo, join a workshop or webinar or hear from experts on getting the basics right or making the most of new technologies. There are so many opportunities coming up for small business owners to build stronger connections, get back on track or to grow their operations.

This May is also a great time to get behind small business and share messages from the <u>Business Queensland Facebook page</u>, add a message or graphic from the <u>QSBM promotion</u> <u>kit</u> to your social media channels or newsletter or pick something up from your favourite local small businesses.

### Make it an eventful month

<u>Business Queensland's event calendar</u> has everything that is coming up this month, filter the results to find something near you.

To help you get inspired, here's some of the events the Department of Customer Services, Open Data and Small and Family Business will deliver this month.

### Financial literacy workshops

Need a hand to cut through what your business data is telling you? With 10 in-person workshops and two online sessions, each <u>Financial literacy workshop</u>: <u>What is my bottom</u> <u>line telling me?</u> will help attendees better understand and act on what their business numbers are telling them.

These sessions will also call on small business and rural financial counsellors, wellness coaches, mentors and cyber security experts.

This will kick off in Emerald on 8 May, with Toowoomba, Goondiwindi, Brisbane, Winton, Longreach, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Mount Isa and Charters Towers to follow. The online workshops will be held on Friday 9 May and Thursday 22 May. Follow the link to register.

#### **Business recovery clinics**

Get some tailored support to help your business recover from natural disaster. Nine <u>Business recovery clinics</u> will be held in communities impacted by recent natural disasters, starting with Winton on 20 May, then heading to North Queensland and South East Queensland. Speak with business experts about the supports available and the steps your business can take to recover and become more resilient.

## **Support in action**



#### Helping sole trader plan next steps

Since launching her own business while working in a corporate role, Liz Tully has been following her passion for supporting positive workplace mental health support.

At the start of this year, she registered for a Mentoring for Growth session. <u>Read more</u> to find our how this shaped her plans for the future.

## The big picture for small business

#### **Queensland Workforce Insights Survey now open**

All Queensland employers are invited to share their recent experiences in recruiting and retaining staff, workforce development priorities and other workforce matters.

The <u>Queensland Workforce Insights</u> <u>Survey</u> is a short survey to allow employers of all sizes and in all regions and industries to provide their experiences and insights to help inform future workforce assistance and strategies.



Complete the survey before it closes on Friday 23 May 2025.

For more information: Visit business.qld.gov.au



# Support in action

#### Mentoring for Growth helps sole trader plan next steps

With 20 years' experience in human resources Liz Tully had seen the good, the bad and the ugly of workplace mental health.

She started Mental Wealth at Work in 2020 to help workplaces to do more to support the one in five Australians who experience poor mental health.

"I founded Mental Wealth at Work whilst working in a corporate HR role on a job share basis. After two years of building my business, I took the leap of faith to resign from my HR role and work in my business on a full-time basis," she said.

"As a sole trader, the challenge is juggling the skills of small business ownership, as well as delivering the services to my clients. I don't have the luxury of bouncing ideas off a teammate, other than my husband and cats!"



In early January 2025, Liz registered for a <u>Mentoring for Growth</u> session, which proved valuable to Liz's future plans for the business.

"I was really impressed to be matched with two mentors within my industry to provide a different perspective and also provide a wealth of free resources to help me grow my business," she said.

"As I'm about to celebrate 5 years in business, I'm looking ahead to plan for the next 5 years and beyond.

"I would strongly encourage business owners to use the mentoring session."

The Mentoring for Growth online sessions during Queensland Small Business Month are filling up fast. Thankfully the program is running year-round.

So <u>register your business for a 45-minute session</u> now or when you're ready to discuss an opportunity, challenge or get some new ideas for your business. Then a M4G team member will be in touch to schedule a convenient time for your session with a suitable volunteer mentor.

For more information: Visit business.qld.gov.au

