Planning Seminars to Address Flood Resilience

Planners and other professionals concerned with community resilience to natural disasters are urged to attend workshops in **Gatton** and **Roma** next month.

Full day 'Understanding Floods' seminars are being rolled out in regional communities affected by the natural disasters of 2010/2011.

The seminars are an initiative of the Planning Institute of Australia's (PIA) post flood program, 'Supporting Post Disaster Planning in Flood Affected Areas,' and will include presentations on the issues communities are left to deal with following a natural disaster.

The seminars will include presentations on emergency response, hydrology, meteorology, governance and urban planning along with a session on insurance.

The insurance industry will be represented by Laurie Ratz, the Special Risks Manager with the Insurance Council of Australia whose responsibilities include the coordination of the general insurance industry's response to disasters and catastrophic weather events.

Mr Ratz has represented the insurance industry at major weather related events at a national level including flooding in various areas of QLD and NSW the storm events in Western Sydney and Brisbane.

"I'll be talking on how the Insurance industry responds to events which have significant impact on a community through the Insurance Council’s Catastrophe Coordination Arrangements," Mr Ratz said.

"I'll also be referring to parts of the Insurance Council’s “10-Point Plan to Tackle Disasters”, particularly to land-use planning and the importance of community resilience to recovery.

Also speaking at the seminars will be General Manager, Land Use Planning at the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA), Brendan Nelson.

'Supporting Post Disaster Planning in Flood Affected Areas,' Project Manager Megan Dugdale said planners and people working in areas concerned with a community's resilience to natural disasters will gain a lot from the seminars and workshops.

"We have designed a program that will not only help people prepare to lessen the effects of natural disasters but also help to build safer and more resilient communities for the future," Ms Dugdale said.

**Bookings are essential. Please call (07) 5465 7331 to register.**

Understanding Floods - **Seminar and Workshop**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Venue/Address</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 10</td>
<td><strong>Gatton</strong></td>
<td>Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre,</td>
<td>9.30am - 4.00pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Lake Apex Drive, Gatton</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11</td>
<td><strong>Roma</strong></td>
<td>Roma Explorers Inn</td>
<td>9.30am - 4.00pm</td>
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<td>Warrego Highway, Roma</td>
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**Media Contact: Geoff Mullins Pan Communications 0402 070 225**

Below is a list of speakers at each Seminar....
Post Flood Seminar - GATTON

Understanding flood forecasting and predictions - Sue Oates, Meteorologist - BOM Qld.
Understanding the Emergency Response process - Neil Polglase Director Corporate Services, Murweh Shire Council
Planning for a Disaster Resilient Australia - Neil Head Director, Community Awareness & Education, Australian Emergency Management Institute
How do Insurers determine flood risk - how would they influence planning - Laurie Ratz Special Risks Manager Insurance Council of Australia
Developing a framework for Risk Based Planning - Steven Molino Principal, Molino Stewart
Building resilience with mitigation - Ian Dinham Chairman, Floodplain Management Association
What to do with land in a flood prone zone - Kate Isles Director - Land Use Planning Queensland Reconstruction Authority
Mining Boom - dealing with events and building resilience - Kelly Alcorn Special Counsel, Clayton Utz

Post Flood Seminar (ROMA)

Understanding Flood forecasting and predictions - Sue Oates, Meteorologist - BOM Qld.
Understanding the Emergency Response process - Neil Polglase Director Corporate Services, Murweh Shire Council
After the event - who assists? - Brendan Nelson, General Manager - Land Use Planning Queensland Reconstruction Authority
How do Insurers determine flood risk & how would they influence planning? - Laurie Ratz Special Risks Manager, Insurance Council of Australia
Dealing with existing challenges - David Gibbons Floodplain Management Association
What to do with land in a flood prone zone - Brendan Nelson General Manager - Land Use Planning, Queensland Reconstruction Authority
Mining Boom - dealing with events and building resilience - Kelly Alcorn Special Counsel, Clayton Utz