



# Townsville/Thuringowa Safe Communities #103



*Certifying Centre and Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion. Affiliate Centre with Certifying Authority of the International Safe Schools Movement.*

As demonstrated by the above photo, Townsville & Thuringowa Safe Communities (TTSC) embraced the concept of intersectorial collaboration by involving all relevant key agencies in their Safe Communities programme. Townsville & Thuringowa is now the 103<sup>rd</sup> internationally designated Safe Community, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Queensland Safe Community. As stated by the Mayors this is “*something we can all be truly proud of*”. Both Mayor Tony Mooney (Townsville) and Mayor Cr Les Turrell (Thuringowa) also acknowledged that the official designation ceremony was a milestone achievement for this region. “*We have travelled a long way to reach this point, and it has been the long-term commitment of many hard working individuals that has led to the success of this programme*”.

The collaborative leadership demonstrated by the key partners involved in the TTSC programme is aimed at ensuring that people in this region “*live without fear, in an environment that encourages prosperity, happiness and a lifestyle second to none*”. The TTSC has ensured that proven long-term sustainable programmes demonstrating comprehensive safety initiatives in the areas of home & child, occupational, road, personal & social, seniors & sport and recreation, were effectively implemented.

Speakers at the designation ceremony commented that having “*Townsville & Thuringowa internationally accredited as a Safe Community will have far reaching, positive benefits for our region*”. They also acknowledged the commitment and dedication of Marie-Claude Brown, coordinator of the Townsville & Thuringowa Safe Communities programme.

In conclusion, one of the unique aspects of this Safe Community is the involvement of BHP Billiton Cannington as a major partner and funder of their journey to becoming a safer community. This partnership has not only seen the programme progress faster than expected, but has shaped it professionally, and given the Townsville & Thuringowa Safe Communities programme added opportunities to engage with the business sector.



**Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ)**