

# Tully MPC loses \$200k

There is no threat to the Tully Multi Purpose Centre despite the state government pulling \$200,000 in funding from Arts Queensland.

The announcement was only made yesterday but Cassowary Coast Regional Council Mayor Bill Shannon was adamant the project would go ahead, even if it took a further reduction in the size of the project.

The latest and unexpected news came only days after the MPC project control group held its first meeting since the CCRC's application for a federal grant was approved.

Mayor Shannon said the project group had reconvened in the wake of last month's announcement that the council's application for \$2.1 million, under the Federal Government's Community Infrastructure Program, had been successful.

The \$6.1 million project (now reduced to \$5.9m with the loss of the Arts Queensland money) to construct a multi-purpose facility for community and school use in the grounds of Tully State High School was put on hold in late 2008, pending the outcome of further grant funding becoming available, including the council's submission for funding under the Community

Infrastructure Program.

The council, Queensland Government and Tully State High School Parents and Citizens Association (P and C) are partners in the building project which will provide facilities for indoor and outdoor sports, performing arts and event and function space.

The Project Control Group, which includes project partner representatives, as well as members of the community, will finalise the concept design for the centre by the end this month.

"Fortunately the concept design is already well-advanced," Councillor Shannon said.

Tenders for the construction of the MPC will be called in early November, with building work expected to commence the following month.

The project, to be managed by GHD Pty Ltd, will be jointly funded by the Cassowary Coast Regional Council (\$1.4 million), Education Queensland (\$1.176 million), Federal Government Community Infrastructure Program (\$2.1 million) and Queensland Department of Sport and Recreation (\$1 million). An additional \$200,000 is expected to be raised through public and corporate donations.