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• Forum for women in surveying

With a critical shortage of surveyors now and predicted into the future, and with surveyors playing an important role in land development, construction/infrastructure development and mining we need to encourage more people into surveying, and we need to retain people already in the industry.

A diverse workforce is critical for the success for any organisation or industry and results in higher staff morale, improved employee productivity, diversity of thinking and problem solving, and businesses that are more profitable.

There is a very low participation rate for women in surveying with only 3% of all surveyors registered with the Surveyors Board of Queensland being female.

The Department of Resources is committed to increase the number of women in surveying in Queensland. In addition to the benefits above, one of the possible solutions towards addressing the shortage of surveyors is to increase the number of women in the profession.

A key factor to success in increasing the number of women is having strong support networks in place, where shared experiences can be discussed. Resources is seeking to establish a network/forum in Queensland for women in surveying (women of all levels and qualifications are welcome). Initially the forum will be chaired by Jemma Picco, Principal Surveyor, Department of Resources.

The role and format of the forum will be decided at the first meeting; however, the purpose of the forum is for encouragement, discussion, and resolution of issues particular to women in surveying. Given that diversity is linked to improved productivity and profitability, we are hoping that employers will be able to encourage staff to get involved.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the forum, please contact Jemma directly via email at Jemma.Picco@resources.qld.gov.au