

## Cairns Centre: a chance to return home for Luke

For me, the most exciting part of the construction of Spinal Life Australia's Healthy Living Centre is the opportunity for me to return home to my friends and family.

I sustained a spinal cord injury in a motor accident in 2015. The rehabilitation services I needed at the time were not available in Cairns, so I had to move to the Gold Coast.

Once the Cairns Centre is complete, I am hoping to return home and continue my rehabilitation work there. I've made some great progress, but I would definitely rather be in Cairns. I like the Gold Coast and I have a few friends here, but I grew up in Cairns; it's home for me.

My brother has a property near the future site of the Cairns Centre, on the corner of Lake and Smith Streets. I am looking forward to him giving me first-hand updates about the Centre's progress.

I'm very much looking forward to the Centre's completion so I can finally return home.

A big thank you to Spinal Life for making this happen.

Luke Crawford



Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

Spinal Life  
AUSTRALIA

Spinal Life Healthy Living Centre  
Cairns, Far North Queensland

Spinal Life  
AUSTRALIA

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ON YOUR TRUSTED TEAM FOR LIFE

## Far North Queensland has double the rate of spinal cord injuries of any other region in Queensland

Spinal Life Australia has proudly provided services and support to members and clients across Queensland since 1960. The needs of people living in Far North Queensland with spinal cord damage and other physical disabilities continue to grow:

- › 5300 people with a physical disability live in Far North Queensland
- › More than 4700 people from this region are likely to require NDIS services.

The Spinal Life Australia Healthy Living Centre will allow FNQ residents who sustain a spinal cord injury to return home sooner while their home modifications and support teams are arranged.

Not only will they be able to have all their equipment trials and prescriptions completed at the Centre, services focused on assessment and rehabilitation will be provided to ensure people remain as fit and healthy as possible as they age.



We aim to support people with spinal cord damage closer to home, where and when they need it most

## The Spinal Life Healthy Living Centre will be the first of its kind in Queensland

### The Centre will provide:

- › on-going rehabilitation and maintenance for clients closer to home
- › new purpose-built short-term accommodation (transitional and holiday) for people with spinal cord damage and other physical disabilities
  - › access to smart technology and assistive equipment
  - › wireless internet and climate control
  - › specialised rehabilitation services
  - › eight specialist therapy rooms
  - › a fully accessible hydrotherapy pool
- › specially designed gymnasium with latest equipment and technology
- › a community café (a social enterprise) and art gallery
- › employment for specialised personal carers and training for local carers.

## Boosting accessible tourism

Ideally located in Cairns, the gateway to the Daintree Rainforest and The Great Barrier Reef, and not far from the scenic Skyrail, the Spinal Life Healthy Living Centre will offer holiday accommodation to both interstate and international guests.

Situated on the Cairns Esplanade, guests with a physical disability and their families will be able to relax in one of the Centre's suites. Each will be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and offer in-house support services.

As part of our accommodation services, we will partner with accessible tourist destinations and businesses in the Cairns area, and work with others to increase inclusion through our commitment to advocacy.

## Involvement and opportunities

The Spinal Life Healthy Living Centre will offer significant community participation and collaboration opportunities including:

- › partnerships
- › joint ventures
- › room and area recognition
- › donor attribution
- › social enterprise
- › plus opportunities to lease space.

To discuss these further, please contact Catherine Williams on 0419 645 316 or 1300 774 625.

