



Media Release

Outstanding wins for Queensland at GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards

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Outstanding innovation by project teams from Queensland has been rewarded with an impressive swag of prizes at the national and international GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards in Adelaide this weekend.

GovHack National Director, Richard Tubb, said, “creative people from across Queensland greatly impressed the judges with their outstanding ideas for projects that helped unlock the value of open data for everyone in the community.”

Held in July at 40 locations across Australia and New Zealand [GovHack 2016](#) was believed to be the world’s biggest annual government open data hackathon. The 46 hour event attracted over 3,000 participants who formed into teams to transform government open data into apps, visualisations and websites and compete for the prestigious Red Carpet Awards. A record number of data sets (over 170) and data portals (over 40) were made available for the event by a wide range of government agencies.

Award winning projects from Queensland included:

- [Search Party](#) - A smartphone app that helps co-ordinate public searches for missing people using a GPS 'heat map' to identify areas that have not been searched. The app combines missing person data from the ABC and the Australian Government with data from the Gold Coast City Council and the Queensland Government.
- [Mother Nature](#) - Mother Nature visualised in a human art form reflecting the state of the environment. Her lungs are sensitive to air pollution and she changes colour in response to toxic waste.
- [Future Proof](#) - Where are the jobs of the future? This app identifies their location and the industries they will be in using open data from agencies including the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Sunshine Coast Council.
- [John Conner](#) - High temperatures cause heat stress to vegetable crops, reducing yields. This project helps farmers identify heat stress early so they can take steps to minimise the damage using open data from The Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Queensland government.
- [Accident Tracker](#) - A web app designed to help government departments improve roads using real time data from traffic accidents using data from the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

- [De-Identify Your Data Inc](#) - Removing personal information can be a challenge for governments wanting to release their data to the public. This web app provides a quick and easy solution.
- [Weather Balls](#) - The Weather Ball is an Internet connected desk light that lets you know when the weather is taking a turn for the worse by changing colour and flashing.

Red Carpet Award Results

International major prizes won by teams from Queensland included:

- IAG and Bureau of Meteorology's [Community Resilience Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [Search Party](#) by GovHack Search Party.
- Ancestry.com's [Storytelling Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [Mother Nature](#) by weigetpaid.

National major prizes won by teams from Queensland included:

- ABC and Microsoft's [Creative Humanities Hack](#) 1st prize - [Search Party](#) by GovHack Search Party.
- Department of Education and Training and Department of Employment's [Future Australia Hack](#) 1st prize - [Future Proof](#) by The Coding Collective.
- Australian Financial Security Authority and the Queensland Government's [Innovative Ideas Hack](#) 1st prize - [Search Party](#) by GovHack Search Party
- National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network) and Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's [Paddock to Plate Hack](#) 1st prize - [John Conner](#) by Toowoomba trio.

National Best Youth Team prizes won by teams from Queensland included:

- DLA Piper's [Best Youth Team](#) 1st prize - [Accident Tracker](#) by Kids Team.

National bounty prizes won by teams from Queensland included:

- Queensland Government's [Hiding Wally Award](#) 1st prize - [De-Identify Your Data Inc](#) by Makin' Bacon Flapjacks.
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science's [Local Industry Activity](#) 1st prize - [Future Proof](#) by The Coding Collective.
- Australian Financial Security Authority's [Securing Personal Property](#) 1st prize - [Future Proof](#) by The Coding Collective.
- Department of Employment And Training's [Training Data](#) 1st prize - [Future Proof](#) by The Coding Collective.
- Bureau of Meteorology's [Weather Forecast](#) 1st prize - [Weather Balls](#) by Weather Ball.

GovHack aims to connect citizens with government and industry to help unlock the social and economic value of open data - estimated to be worth around \$25 billion a year in Australia alone.

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