

Dear IPC Committee,

My name is Marin Simpson and I am writing to you to express my support for North Byron Parklands and its application to be a permanent venue for Splendour in the Grass, Falls and smaller community events.

I've attended many events at the site (both Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival) and have been impressed on many levels.

Splendour in the Grass has donated over \$500,000 to community groups in the Northern Rivers since it started in Byron in 2001. For anyone to say Splendour doesn't care about community have no idea about the history or the producers of this event.

Community groups and local schools welcome financial support each year from Parklands and its festivals. The grant program helps bring about excellent community initiatives and opens up collaborations between community groups and the festivals that raise further revenue for communities.

For some community groups Parklands' community grants have been the only way that important educational and cultural initiatives have got off the ground in Byron. The impact of Parklands annual community grants program can't be underestimated. The local foot-ball clubs, pre-schools, surf life-saving clubs, men's refuges, emergency services and local halls have all been able to purchase new equipment or start up great new programs. The community grants would be hugely missed if events couldn't operate at Parklands.

This is just one more excellent reason why Parkland's application for permanency should be approved.

As well as the community grants scheme, Parklands also offers hundreds of festival tickets every year to organisations for raffling to raise funds for their schools and charities. Parklands and its events important support for community groups. My children's school has benefited from these donated tickets with money raised through their raffle as has our local community hall.

Parklands community grant scheme is such an important form of funding for north coast communities and long may it continue.

Thank you

Marin Simpson