

**From:** [David McMahon](#)  
**To:** [Finance and Administration Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Holiday Bill submission  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2015 3:29:23 PM

---

Thank you for the opportunity to have some input into the proposed Bill.

I believe that the current public holiday agenda now should stand and not be altered. I believe that the "balance" is right for public holidays with Easter, June and October. To not have a long weekend in June means that there is a big break between May and October (5 months).

As tourism was one of the pillars of the former government and tourism funding being increased by this Government we (Goondiwindi) need to capitalise on long weekends for event attraction. Our June long weekend event Planes, Trains, Automobiles and Bikes was a great success and from that weekend Goondiwindi is very much in the mix to host a National Motor Vehicle Rally. I am sure that other event organisers around the State would want surety that their event is going to happen each year and around the same time. We can't plan for success into the future if the holidays are uncertain.

Planning again is key to success. To attract events in 2017, 2018, 2019 and beyond we need to start the planning and negotiation now.

The October long weekend is great as it aligns us with the NRL grand finals. Its appeal however to us here in Goondiwindi is limited due to the fact that it is the NRL grand final. People won't travel that weekend especially east to west.

So I am submitting that leave the June long weekend alone. In certain years it aligns with Queensland Week, which the government has grant funding for to celebrate, so it makes sense to me to celebrate Queensland and to attract an event at the same time.

By the way Goondiwindi has a show holiday on the first Friday in May, the May Day holiday happens on that following Monday so means a four day weekend. If Easter is celebrated late in the month of April you could have a situation of Easter and show day and May Day happening in the space of 2-3 weeks. This is where public holidays are certainly no good for the business community.

Regards

David McMahon  
President Goondiwindi and District Historical Society Inc

