

Beach film festival scores \$25,000

THE Mission Beach Film Festival has received a boost from the State Government in the latest roll out of funding for regional events.

Organisers will receive \$25,000 to host the event.

Premier Anna Bligh recently announced more than \$1.4 million in funding for 60 events across the state, as part of Round 18 of the Queensland Events Regional Development Program.

This year's festival, to be held in September, follows on from the success of the inaugural event in November last year.

The 14 film screenings attracted more than 1000.

Festival steering committee member Melissa Thurgood said they would not be able to hold the event without the monetary support.

Ms Thurgood said the committee had also received a grant from the program to hold the first event, with this year's festival gaining an additional \$5000 in funding.

"It became clear to Queensland Events that the first festival did exceptionally well from the response from the public, community and local business and the number of attendances," Ms Thurgood said.

However, she said the festival still relied on additional sponsorship from local businesses.

Ms Thurgood said the festival would again focus on sustainability and include a variety of workshops and activities, such as guest speakers, an expanded children's program and a short film competition.