

# Media Release

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18 March 2024

## Aurizon's Community Giving Fund opens today



*Two of Aurizon's local Townsville team visiting Fuel For Schools Ltd, a recipient of Aurizon's Community Giving Fund.*

Aurizon, Australia's largest rail freight operator, has just announced the commencement of the first round of its 2024 Community Giving Fund. This initiative aims to empower eligible charities by providing cash grants of up to \$20,000. These grants are specifically targeted at organisations working in the areas of Health and Wellbeing, Community Safety, Environment and Education.

Andrew Harding, the Managing Director & CEO, emphasised the significance of the Fund: "Given that more than 86% of our workforce resides in regional areas, it is pleasing for us to be able contribute in a meaningful way to the communities where we operate."

Since its inception in 2011, the Aurizon Community Giving Fund has supported over 600 charities, enabling them to execute impactful local and regional projects.

"The widespread reach of this support is evident, spanning right across our areas of operation," Andrew added.

"A great example of what this funding can do is the grant we provided to Fuel for Schools Ltd. They used the funds to fill backpacks with items that a child needs to commence school in the Ingham, Townsville and Burdekin regions of North Queensland.

"Members from our Stuart depot visited earlier this year had the opportunity to see first-hand what went into the backpacks as they donated their time to help pack them, getting them ready for the new school year for local children in Townsville.

“We take great pride in backing community initiatives like this one, which directly impact the areas where our team members reside and work. We eagerly anticipate continuing our support for numerous future endeavours,” said Mr Harding.

“If you are a charity or community group seeking financial support for projects where we operate, I encourage you to visit our website to find out more information and apply.”

Applications for the latest round of Aurizon’s Community Giving Fund are open until 5.00pm AEST Friday 26 April 2024. More information about the Community Giving Fund and how to apply is available [here](#).

**For more information, please contact:**

Corporate Affairs: [media@aurizon.com.au](mailto:media@aurizon.com.au)

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*Aurizon (ASX: AZJ) is Australia’s largest rail freight operator. Each year the Company transports around 250 million tonnes of Australian commodities, connecting miners, primary producers, and industry with international and domestic markets. More than 80% of our employees live and work in rural and regional communities.*

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