



The LGBTI Roundtable is inclusive of all sexually and gender diverse people

LGBTI Roundtable Communiqué

The second Queensland LGBTI Roundtable meeting of the year was held on 6 August 2019.

The role of the Roundtable is to enable the Queensland Government to ensure its policies, programs and services are inclusive of and responsive to the needs of LGBTI communities, individuals and their families.

Roundtable members represent Queensland's diverse LGBTI communities and bring rich expertise in LGBTI matters including the fields of education, youth, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culturally and linguistically diverse background and rural and remote.

Representatives Chris Pickhard, Dallas Pitt, Jay Wells, Matt Hall, Mikhara Ramsing, Nicole Whitmore, Rebecca Johnson, Rob Nielsen, Ruth Toomey and Vicki Ogilvie attended the meeting, joined by six senior government officers from the Queensland Human Rights Commission and the Departments of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (Executive Director, Community Services and State-wide Operations as proxy for the Assistant Director-General, Community Services and Seniors as Chair); Justice and Attorney-General; Health; Education; and Child Safety, Youth and Women.

At the meeting, representatives from working groups provided an overview of progress in each of the key areas of the Roundtable's work plan:

- Creating Jobs in a Strong Economy
- Keeping Queenslanders Healthy
- Keeping Communities Safe
- Giving All Our Children a Great Start
- Being a Responsive Government.

Highlights included:

- Development of online resources through the Domestic and Family Violence campaign.
- Resources for culturally and linguistically diverse people, including LGBTI, trialled in Logan.
- Potential to engage with the Queensland Youth Engagement panel on relevant matters.
- Presentation by Victim Assist Queensland informing the Roundtable about information and referrals they provide to support services and promotion of the Charter of Victims' Rights. The Financial Assistance Unit provides financial assistance to victims of crime to support their recovery, including medical, counselling, safety and security costs, and funeral and legal costs, and assistance with referrals to support agencies or services.



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The Department of Justice and Attorney-General provided a further update on the review of the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003*:

- Public consultation has been finalised and discussion papers 2 and 3 were released in February and April 2019.
- Policy papers are being finalised.

The Chairperson congratulated members who received an award at Brisbane Pride's 58th Queen's Ball Awards:

- Mr Peter Black, Activist of the Year Award
- Open Doors Youth Service, Community Support Group of the Year.

Congratulations were also extended to Ms Rebecca Johnson, who is the first female First Nations President to lead Brisbane Pride.

Issues raised at the meeting included:

- members of same sex couples who were victims of domestic and family violence feeling unsafe in court houses where they were placed in the same room as their perpetrators
- misnaming and mis-gendering in court.

Government representatives will discuss these matters with the relevant areas and provide an update to Roundtable members at the next meeting.

The next LGBTI Roundtable meeting will be held in December 2019.