

## Jeff Seeney MP eNewsletter 2017 - edition 3

Welcome to another edition of my eNewsletter. I hope you will find the information of interest to you.

Topics covered in this issue include; LNP changes to the public service, state school funding, government statistics hide true facts and Labor's trade failures.

\*\*\*\*\*

### *LNP Plan to build a Public Service of Excellence*

- **Best and brightest public servants to be given opportunity to upskill**
- **All appointments to be merit and performance based**
- **Gender and diversity targets to be set for senior levels**
- **Exchange and secondment program to be implemented with private sector**
- **No forced redundancies with Public Service to be more focused on outcomes**

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National Government will implement a comprehensive plan to improve engagement and service delivery for the Queensland public service as part of our plan to Build a Better Queensland.

Mr Nicholls has launched the LNP's plan to empower public servants with the training, skills and leadership to deliver better outcomes for Queenslanders.

"We need to get better bang for buck for Queensland's public service. We believe the best way of doing that is to improve engagement and service delivery," Mr Nicholls said.

"An engaged workforce is a highly productive workforce that obtains the best results but, as shown in the Working for Queensland survey, less than half of employees believe the organisation is well managed.

"We believe the best way to engage public service employees is to better equip our leaders and to provide employees with the skills and opportunities they need to advance their careers. A more engaged, inclusive and diverse workforce leads to better decision making and higher levels of productivity and performance."

Mr Nicholls also categorically ruled out any forced redundancies and said the public service would be held more accountable to deliver outcomes under a future LNP Government.

"The LNP is focused on streamlining processes and ensuring public servants spend less time dealing with bureaucratic red tape and can spend more time delivering outcomes for Queenslanders," he said.

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will deliver a more flexible and engaging public service to deliver better outcomes for Queenslanders by:

- Establishing a Leaders of Tomorrow program;
- Creating a 10-year target to increase the proportion of women in senior leadership roles to 50 per cent and double the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in senior leadership roles;

- Engaging an advisory committee, including non-government representatives, to investigate and look at ways of increasing representation for other equal opportunity groups, including people with a disability and people from non-English speaking backgrounds;
- Signing formal agreements with private sector, non-government and other public sector agencies to allow for more secondment and exchange programs.

LNP Deputy Leader Deb Frecklington said all appointments and future opportunities offered under the Public Service of Excellence program would be subject to a merit-based selection process.

“Every year a select number of high-potential leaders in the Queensland public service will be given the opportunity to build their skill set through the Leaders of Tomorrow program,” Ms Frecklington said.

“The program will offer a number of development options tailored to the individuals in the program.

“Opportunities include education activities, coaching, mentoring, networking opportunities, secondments and other on-the-job exposure.”

Mr Nicholls said committing to a gender target made economic sense.

“Women occupy fewer than 36 per cent of senior executive positions in the Queensland public service<sup>[i]</sup>, despite making up two-thirds of the total public service,” he said.

“A growing body of research shows that organisations with greater gender equality perform better, that more women in leadership roles are associated with better performance and that gender equality promotes an environment where innovation can flourish.

“Economic modelling undertaken by Deloitte Access Economics shows that gender equality on boards would improve the productivity of the Queensland economy by \$87 million (*Deloitte Access Economics Queensland Business Outlook December 2016*).

“If we are to have a better-performing and more engaged public service it’s critical we seek to close the gender gap in management positions.”

Mr Nicholls said a diversity target was necessary to properly set about a culture of change in the Queensland public service.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Labor cry poor despite record State School funding*

- **Labor’s Kate Jones must act now to ensure all students receive the best education possible**
- **LNP delivered the Great Results Guarantee that ensured funding went directly to schools**
- **In 2017/18 Queensland State Schools will receive an extra \$115.6 million**

The Palaszczuk Labor Government must guarantee that every dollar of extra federal funding goes directly into schools to ensure better outcomes for our students.

LNP Shadow Minister for Education Tracy Davis said claims by Kate Jones that Queensland would only receive an extra \$1 million were false and scaremongering.

“Labor’s part-time Education Minister Kate Jones is crying crocodile tears when she knows full well that in 2017-18 alone Queensland’s state schools will get an extra \$115.6 million in extra Commonwealth funding,” Ms Davis said.

“At a time when Queensland NAPLAN results are flat lining or declining, it is imperative that every single cent goes towards achieving better student results.

“It is irresponsible of the Minister to continue to play politics with our children’s education.

“We can’t afford to let our kids down by wasting one cent of the extra funding.

“It was the LNP that delivered the Great Results Guarantee that ensured funding went directly to schools.

“Only the LNP Government will create jobs and better manage our finances.”

Year	Funding increase	% Growth
2017 to 18	\$115.6m	7.4%
18 to 19	\$127.7m	7.6%
19 to 20	\$165m	9.2%
20 to 21	\$133m	6.8%

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Government statistics don't match how Queenslanders feel*

- **Government statistics hide desperate situation facing Queensland jobseekers and businesses**
- **30,000 full-time jobs lost in Queensland in 2016, with the number of young Queenslanders in a job falling by 11,500 in past year - worst in the nation**
- **Slight increase in Gross State Product doesn't even come close to the 4 per cent Labor promised in last budget yet Pitt is claiming victory for coming billions short of his own target**

Shadow Treasurer Scott Emerson says selected government statistics released to the media hide the true picture facing everyday Queenslanders desperately looking for a job or families struggling to pay their bills.

“Annastacia Palaszczuk might get all warm and fuzzy to hear Gross State Product (GSP) has risen slightly but it doesn’t mean much to a kid trying to find a job in Cairns or in outback Queensland where youth unemployment is over 40 per cent,” Mr Emerson said.

“The slight increase in GSP is considerably less than the 4 per cent Annastacia Palaszczuk promised in the last budget and yet she’s claiming victory for delivering just 2.6 per cent - Labor has come up billions short of its own promise.

“Report after independent report is showing Queensland is falling further and further behind the other states when it comes to economic performance and business confidence.

“Queensland continues to lead the nation in job losses with recent Australian Bureau of Statistics figures showing 30,000 full-time jobs have been lost in Queensland in the past year, while the number of young Queenslanders in a job has fallen by 11,500 in the last year - the worst drop in Australia.

“It’s not only harder to get a job in Queensland, it’s become much harder to do business in Queensland. Queensland has had more business-related bankruptcies than any other state every single quarter since Labor’s election in 2015. A third of all business bankruptcies happen in Queensland.

“In just the past month, independent reports from Sensis, the ANZ-Property Council and CommSec – to name just a few – have documented our great state’s sad decline to the bottom of the economic heap.

“The Sensis survey listed the Palaszczuk Government as worst in the nation, the ANZ-Property Council survey showed the Palaszczuk Government is viewed as the worst in the nation and the CommSec State of the States report ranked Queensland fifth on economic performance well behind New South Wales, Victoria and even Tasmania.”

Mr Emerson said everyday Queenslanders would not share Anastacia Palaszczuk and Curtis Pitt’s joy in a small jump in government statistics.

“The Palaszczuk Labor Government is really clutching at straws if they think a few figures on a sheet of paper in George St means anything to Queensland jobseekers and families,” he said.

“The feeling out on the ground in Queensland’s regions and in the suburbs is far from optimistic under this do-nothing government.

“Only the LNP has a plan to focus on six key economic drivers to Build a Better Queensland and deliver the jobs needed to restart our economy.”

\*\*\*\*\*

*After 2 years Labor discovers trade is important to Queensland*

- **After two years and two ministers Labor finally releases a trade ‘strategy’**
- **Trade plan consists of just another glossy brochure from a do nothing government**
- **Plan copies LNP ideas and claims credit for LNP delivery of office in North America**

Deputy LNP Leader Deb Frecklington said the recent announcement by Labor of a trade ‘strategy’ was farcical given it comes after two long years of lazy Labor government in Queensland.

“It’s taken this do-nothing Palaszczuk Government over two years and two trade ministers to release a trade strategy – and even then it consists of not much more than a glossy brochure that steals LNP ideas and claims credit for LNP decisions,” Ms Frecklington said.

“The supposed plan copies the LNP’s key priority areas of mining, agriculture, tourism and education but forgets about the Construction and Manufacturing Sector as well as the Services, Science and Technology sector.

“Labor Treasurer Curtis Pitt even tries to claim credit for the North American trade office established by the former LNP government – when we recognised the USA as the major source of direct foreign investment in Queensland.

“The trumped up plan lists a number of business-as-usual functions as ‘new’ activities and is yet another demonstration of all spin and no substance from Labor.”

Ms Frecklington said the document was an insult to all the all the hard working family businesses in Queensland who’ve carved out successful export markets and provided jobs for Queenslanders.

“At every turn this out of touch Labor government shows it not only has no idea what it takes to run a successful export business, but even less about running a State Government,” she said.

“Palaszczuk, Pitt and Trad are experts at bungling Queensland’s trade relationships rather than building them.”

**Palaszczuk trade failures:**

- Opened new Chengdu trade office in China on a whim – with no business case or analysis done by Trade and Investment Queensland
- Both the Premier and Deputy Premier snubbed the Premier’s Export Awards in 2016
- Failed to take business delegates on nearly half of taxpayer funded trade missions.
- Publicly criticised the US President-elect then failed to apologise – potentially damaging one of Queensland’s most important trade relationships.
- Publicly claimed US President Trump was going to damage the Queensland economy.

\*\*\*\*\*

---