



Communiqué

Meeting date: 22 March 2023

The Queensland LGBTIQ+ Roundtable (the Roundtable) of the 2023-2025 term met for the first time on 22 March 2023.

Aunty Dawn Daylight, Yugerra-Turrbul-Jarrawoir woman, opened the meeting with a Welcome to Country.

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for Communities and Housing and Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts chaired the inaugural meeting for this term and welcomed Roundtable community members to the 2023-2025 term: Mr Brenton Creed, Dr Elija Cassidy, Ms Grace Sholl, Mr James Fowler (apology for this meeting), Ms Jennifer Toonen, Dr Kirstine Hand representing True Relationships and Reproductive Health, Mx Kris Sargeant, Mx Li-Min Lee, Mr Matthew Gillett, Ms Matilda Alexander representing Rainbow Families Queensland / LGBTI Legal Service, Mr Matthew Higgins, Dr Michelle Jeffries, Mr Phillip Carswell OAM, a representative from Rainbow on the Reef, Ms Rebecca Reynolds representing Queensland Council for LGBTI Health (represented by proxy Mr Shaun Staunton for this meeting), Rev. Selina Missouri and Ms Stephanie Saal.

Membership is comprised of community members across the broad spectrum of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex and queer communities, organisations and networks. Members bring rich expertise in the fields of education, youth services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services, rural and remote services and the strengths of the LGBTIQ+ communities across Queensland.

Community members were joined by senior staff from the Departments of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy (DCHDE); Justice and Attorney-General; Education; Queensland Health; Queensland Police Service; Queensland Human Rights Commission; and the Queensland Public Sector LGBTIQ+ Steering Committee to discuss priorities and opportunities for change.

Minister Enoch welcomed community members and highlighted the important role they will play in taking the foundation of the Communities 2032 Strategy to strengthen the fabric of our communities and embedding real change for Queensland's LGBTIQ+ communities.

Rebecca Johnson OAM, former Queensland LGBTI Roundtable member of the 2018-2020 term, 'passed the torch' to the new Roundtable term and delivered an inspirational presentation encouraging Roundtable members to focus on strategic activities, to listen and learn from community and embed change. Ms Johnson OAM also highlighted that cultural safety and protocols must be central to the Roundtable.

The achievements of the previous Queensland LGBTI Roundtable 2018-2020 term were acknowledged as well as the significant work accomplished by LGBTIQ+ communities and the Queensland government in the past.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics also presented information to the Roundtable about the 2026 Census Content Consultation and how to make an individual submission. Roundtable members discussed the opportunities for changes to collect accurate data on LGBTIQ+ people and communities while balancing this with the sensitive collection of data.



Roundtable community members shared their rich personal experiences and their motivations to strengthen outcomes for LGBTIQ+ Queenslanders. Community members considered aspirations for Queensland's LGBTIQ+ communities and raised opportunities for change including:

- a focus on working alongside rural and remote LGBTIQ+ communities
- strengthening access, equity, and quality of health services
- building upon governance and legislation, policy, forms and data to drive change for LGBTIQ+ communities
- exploring potential to develop a dedicated LGBTIQ+ Strategy for Queensland.

Members also discussed the opportunity to elect a community co-Chairperson for future Roundtable meetings.

The Minister acknowledged the group's desire for a community-led Queensland LGBTIQ+ Strategy and a focus on health, regional representation and services, and data collection. The Minister reiterated government and personal commitments and highlighted the opportunity to enact social and policy change.

The Roundtable provides an effective engagement mechanism for Queensland's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, plus (LGBTQIA+) communities to discuss issues, challenges and opportunities with the Queensland Government and to strengthen outcomes for communities.

The Roundtable assists the Queensland Government to ensure development and delivery of services, policies, programs and strategies is inclusive of, and responsive to, the needs of people with innate variations of sex characteristics, and of diverse gender and sexuality.