



LGBTI Roundtable Communiqué

The second Queensland LGBTI Roundtable was held on 30 August 2018.

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

The Roundtable will inform Government engagement with LGBTI communities, and provide a mechanism for communities to highlight issues, challenges and opportunities with the Queensland Government.

Eight representatives of Queensland's diverse LGBTI communities – Ben Bjarnesen, Rebecca Johnson, Dr Lisa van Leent, Chris Pickard, Alex David, Jay Wells, Dallas Pitt and Vicki Ogilvie – were joined by six senior government officials from the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (Director-General as Chair); Department of Health; Department of Justice and Attorney-General; Department of Education; Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women; the Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland and the Queensland Public Sector LGBTIQ+ Steering Committee. A representative from the office of the Honorable Coralee O'Rourke MP, Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors also attended.

Community members are drawn from the Gay and Lesbian, intersex and transgender communities and academia. They bring rich expertise in the fields of education, youth services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services, rural and remote services and the needs of the LGBTI community across Queensland.

Members endorsed the Roundtable's Terms of Reference which noted the inclusion of additional members to represent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTI men, culturally and linguistically diverse LGBTI Queenslanders, LGBTI Queenslanders living with HIV and LGBTI people with disability.

An officer from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General provided an update on the review of the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003*. The review received more than 6,000 responses to an online survey on the Queensland Government's *Get Involved* website. Members discussed issues arising regarding recording gender identity and will be providing further feedback out of session.

Rebecca Johnson reported back from the Equal Rights Coalition Global Conference on LGBTI Human Rights and Inclusive Development held 5-7 August in Vancouver. In line with the conference theme of 'Leaving no-one behind', participants committed to recognizing the perspectives of Indigenous LGBTI people worldwide.

The main focus of the meeting was to finalise the draft Roundtable Work Plan developed from discussions at the previous meeting in April 2018. The Work Plan's



actions are organized under the Queensland Government's priorities of employment, health, safety and brighter futures for children.

Members nominated their areas of interest within the Work Plan and worked in groups to identify which actions should be initiated first. Members will liaise out of session as part of working groups in each priority area to progress these actions.

Mapping existing services for LGBTI communities, identifying gaps and building capacity and capabilities of non-funded organisations are only a few of the prioritised actions.

A communication channel has been established between the Roundtable and the Queensland Sexual Health Ministerial Advisory Committee for ongoing sharing of information about initiatives.

The Roundtable working groups will seek out other opportunities to link in with related activity already underway in the community and government sectors to support the work of the Roundtable and enhance the lives of LGBTI Queenslanders.

August 2018