



Communiqué

Meeting date: 18 July 2023

The Queensland LGBTIQ+ Roundtable (the Roundtable) of the 2023-2025 term met for the second time on 18 July 2023.

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts chaired the meeting.

The meeting was attended by the following Roundtable community members: Mr Elija Cassidy; Ms Grace Sholl, Ms Jennifer Toonen, Dr Kirstine Hand representing True Relationships and Reproductive Health, Ms Matilda Alexander representing Rainbow Families Queensland / LGBTI Legal Service, Mr Matthew Gillett, Mr Matthew Higgins, Dr Michelle Jeffries, Mr Phillip Carswell OAM, Ms Stephanie Saal, Mx Kris Sargeant, Mx Li-Min Lee, Mr Brenton Creed, a representative from Rainbow on the Reef, Rev. Selina McMahon, Ms Rebecca Reynolds representing Queensland Council for LGBTI Health.

Community members were joined by senior staff from the Departments of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts (DTATSIPCA); Justice and Attorney-General; Education; Queensland Health; Queensland Police Service; Queensland Human Rights Commission, and the Queensland Public Sector LGBTIQ+ Steering Committee.

Minister Enoch highlighted that since the last meeting, the development of the Queensland LGBTIQ+ Strategy was announced at the Brisbane Pride Queens Ball Awards held in June. Minister Enoch acknowledged that community members had participated in several out of session activities to inform planning for broader engagement with LGBTIQ+ communities and thanked members for their contributions. Community members indicated that the out of session engagement model is working well and this should continue to progress some of the discussion and work.

The Roundtable had contributed to the development and promotion of the online LGBTIQ+ survey which was released as part of the engagement activities related to development of the Queensland LGBTIQ+ Strategy. Early survey data had highlighted some emerging themes relating to the health portfolio. As a result, Queensland Health presented at the meeting on LGBTIQ+ health initiatives currently underway.

Roundtable members advocated for young people being able to safely identify in the education system, focus on regional support, education and awareness of medical professionals, address non-consensual surgeries on intersex newborns, the need for strong community development to tackle social isolation and loneliness of LGBTIQ+ young and older people and regionally located people, the impacts of First Nations people experiencing racism from within LGBTIQ+ communities, and LGBTIQ+ data collection to inform needs. These themes were recorded for consideration as part of the Queensland LGBTIQ+ Strategy development and associated future planned cross-government engagement activities.

Roundtable members highlighted a strong interest in learning more about the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Act* implementation and the recent vilification laws and it was agreed to explore this at a future meeting.

Members also agreed to nominate a community co-Chairperson.



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.