

**CCIQ response to:*****Inquiry into the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Bill 2021***

Submitted via email on 08/11/2021 to egc@parliament.qld.gov.au

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland (CCIQ) thanks the Economics and Governance Committee for the opportunity to comment on the *Inquiry into the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Bill* (Inquiry).

CCIQ is Queensland's peak industry representative organisation for small and medium businesses. We represent over 448,000 Queensland small and medium businesses who employ 44% of Queenslanders working in the private sector. CCIQ works with the regional and local chamber network across Queensland to develop and advocate for policies that are in the best interests of Queensland businesses, economy, and community.

CCIQ understands the two primary objectives of the *Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Bill* (Bill) are as follows:

- establish the Brisbane Organising Committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (the Corporation) to undertake and facilitate the organisation, conduct, promotion and commercial and financial management of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Brisbane 2032), and
- establish a board of directors of the Corporation to ensure it performs its functions in a proper, effective, and efficient way.

Brisbane 2032 and the opportunities for Queensland businesses

Creating a positive economic legacy from Brisbane 2032 will clearly take effort and collaboration. Beyond the planned multi-billion-dollar infrastructure projects, the economic legacy of Brisbane 2032 should also regard the opportunity for improved business conditions in Queensland, such as:

- enhanced trade and investment,
- government supporting the scaling and growth of Queensland businesses,
- business-friendly government through reduction in red tape, and
- improved procurement processes and capacity-building for Queensland businesses.

The Corporation will have a key role to play in supporting the economic legacy of Brisbane 2032 being realised locally by Queensland businesses, particularly Small and Medium Enterprises.

Establishment

CCIQ supports the establishment of the Corporation as an **independent statutory body** for the reasons outlined in the Bill:

- enabling the Corporation to operate at arms-length from the State with the necessary operational and financial independence to achieve its objectives. This is particularly critical given the 10-year horizon to the delivery of Brisbane 2032 and anticipated changes of Queensland Government leadership over this time.
- enabling a flexible structure to accommodate the distinct objectives and lifespan of the Corporation, as per the Olympic Host Contract



- enabling appropriate transparency and accountability, and
- enabling the establishment of the Board to oversee the operations of the Corporation.

Functions and powers

CCIQ supports the proposed main functions of the Corporation, including to undertake and facilitate the organisation, conduct, promotion and commercial and financial management of Brisbane 2032.

Clause 10 outlines certain matters that the corporation must have regard to, comply with and use its best endeavours to do, when performing its functions. Of particular interest to the Queensland business community, Subsections (1)(d) requires the corporation to ensure goods and services are procured in accordance with the Queensland Government's procurement policy, including procurement from Indigenous businesses'. However, subsection (2) provides that the Queensland Government's procurement policy does not apply to the extent it is inconsistent with the host contract.

CCIQ commends the Queensland government for formally linking the Corporation's functions to the Queensland government's procurement policy in Clause 10, subsection 10 (d) of the Bill.

CCIQ believes that the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games provide a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reform the Queensland Government's procurement policy to better support the participation of Small and Medium Enterprises.

Recommendation 1: CCIQ recommends the addition of an explicit mention of small and medium enterprises in Subsection 10 (d) of the Bill to sit alongside "Indigenous businesses."

Composition of the Board of directors

CCIQ supports the need to ensure that Games partners have sufficient flexibility to recommend suitable appointees depending on the emerging needs of the Corporation over its life. The need to ensure the Board has the appropriate mix of skills and experience is critical for the realising the best outcomes.

CCIQ supports that the Board composition proposed in Clause 17, as per the below:

- the President or Honorary Life President of the Australian Olympic Committee
- the President of Paralympics Australia
- the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Olympic Committee
- any IOC members from Australia that have not reached the age limit or extended age limit for members under the Olympic Charter
- any International Paralympic Committee Governing Board members from Australia
- one athlete having competed for Australia in a recent edition of the Olympic Games as confirmed by the Australian Olympic Committee
- one athlete having competed for Australia in a recent edition of the Paralympic Games as confirmed by Paralympics Australia
- five independent directors (one to be the President of the Board and at least one to be Indigenous) as agreed to by the Premier of Queensland and the Prime Minister
- up to four directors nominated by the Prime Minister of Australia

2



- four directors nominated by the Premier of Queensland
- one director nominated by the Lord Mayor of Brisbane
- the Lord Mayor of Brisbane

CCIQ understands and supports Subsection (2) which clarifies that if the President or Honorary Life President of the Australian Olympic Committee or President of Paralympics Australia are also IOC or International Paralympic Committee Governing Board members from Australia, then the latter positions are taken not to be filled.

CCIQ supports that Clauses 19 and 20 require the Prime Minister, Premier and Lord Mayor to have regard to the requirement that at least 50% of nominated directors holding office be women. This is in accordance with the Queensland Government's Women on Board Policy.

CCIQ also strongly supports that at least one of the independent directors are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

Recommendation 2: CCIQ recommends that independent representation by Queensland industry and business interests also be considered, to ensure the needs and opportunities of the Queensland business community are regarded in the functions, powers and decision making of the Corporation.

Further Enquiries

CCIQ thanks the Economics and Governance Committee for the opportunity to comment on the *Inquiry into the Brisbane Olympics and Paralympic Games Arrangements Bill 2021*. If there are any further questions in relation to this submission, please contact our Policy team at

[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Amanda Rohan,
General Manager, Policy and Advocacy
CCIQ

Cherie Josephson
Manager, Policy and Advocacy
CCIQ

Gus Mandigora
Senior Policy Advisor, Policy and Advocacy
CCIQ