

EMBLEMS OF QUEENSLAND AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2023

Submission No: 1
Submitted by: Maranoa Regional Council
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: See attachment
Submitter Comments:

Enquiries: Edwina Marks
Email: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
1300 007 662 (via Customer Service)
Our Refs: D23/82812

28 September 2023

Queensland Parliamentary Committees
Committee Secretary
Economics and Governance Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Via Email: egc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee,

**Re: Emblems of Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023
Submission into Prehistoric, Dinosaur and Paleo Tourism in Outback
Queensland**

The South West of Queensland has an important legacy in relation to our paleo heritage.

We express our strong support for the addition of the *Muttaborrasaurus Langdoni* as an emblem of Queensland. We believe that incorporating this emblem holds significant cultural and historical importance to the South West Queensland region.

We provide the following feedback for this submission:

- Funding into Dinosaur tourism/paleo tourism has been a welcome investment for the Quilpie Shire. This investment has been supported by all of South West Queensland Regional Organisations of Council (SWQROC) including the Maranoa Regional Council. Council was involved in the initial consultation about the now Dinosaur Collective. It has been a positive way to further enhance the existing product in Outback Queensland, for Southwest Queensland in particular iconic attractions like Eromanga Natural History Museum has provided positive impact for visitors and formed a key element of our marketing of Quilpie, Eromanga and wider Southwest region.
- Projects like the Natural Sciences Loop require further investment to continue to enhance the key collections of paleo tourism in Southwest Queensland to the domestic and international markets.
- The future investment into prehistoric, dinosaur and paleo tourism need to be continued and expanded as a key opportunity moving towards the 2032 Olympics, with investment into both infrastructure and product development well before the Olympics to ensure we have key experiences available for

both the domestic visitor and international visitor. Dinosaur tourism is a key point of difference compared to other outback regions across Australia. There are reports on the value of Dinosaur tourism, so future investment needs to connect with the research and data to continue to emulate this.

- Dinosaur tourism for Quilpie Shire and Southwest presents high value for economic and social elements of our rural and remote communities. Existing infrastructure (museums) like Eromanga Natural History Museum are providing jobs and new career opportunities.
- Expand to identification of diversification of existing industries like that of Agriculture and how it can be connected to Dinosaur tourism will see dollar spend on tourism go further. It will be important not to look at Dinosaur tourism in isolation, but as a key connector for expansion of the tourism industry from emerging to a key industry and to encourage people to move to small communities in Southwest Queensland and be employed in diverse opportunities.
- The challenge for the future of Dinosaur tourism is the continued investment from all levels of Government and the continued support in change of government to build the industry for both tourism and educational importance.
- The opportunity for the dinosaur industry in the Southwest is the connection and point of difference from other regions, the diversification of traditional industries into new industries like tourism.
- Looking at the dinosaur industry, not in isolation but an important clog in the wheel of Southwest building sustainable economies.

We kindly request that you consider this submission to evaluate the potential inclusion of the Muttaborrasaurus Langdoni as an emblem of Queensland.

Yours sincerely



Edwina Marks
Chief Executive Officer
Maranoa Regional Council