

15 June 2017

To the Committee Secretary, Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

As Director of the Cancer Prevention Research Centre in the School of Public Health at the University of Queensland, I write to strongly support the formation of the Healthy Futures Commission Queensland.

Given the importance of lifestyle (refraining from smoking and excessive alcohol consumption, and engaging in physical activity and healthy eating) to the health of children and families, and the many complex factors influencing these, we are strongly in favour of an independent commission that can address these issues in a collaborative and multi-sectoral way for Queensland.

We agree entirely that such a commission, based on successful models in other states, will be able to:

“act as an independent champion that is well placed to communicate with diverse sectors and foster the innovation thinking required to support individual, family and community changes needed to reduce health inequities,

help to strengthen linkages across sectors involved in preventive health, promote better alignment between federal, state and local jurisdictions and increase shared responsibility across the sectors, and

facilitate the growing expectation for a new public health movement that focuses on building the capacity of people and families to be a key force for social change in matters of health and wellbeing.”

Respectfully submitted



Professor Elizabeth Eakin