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From: Adrienne Schneider [Adrienne.Schneider@ccypcg.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 13 March 2009 2:26 PM
To: LCARC
Cc: Yvette Norris; Julie Harcourt
Subject: Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian submission re 'Preamble for the Queensland Constitution'

Attachments: FINAL CCYPCG response to preamble doc.doc



FINAL CCYPCG
response to pream..

Dear Chair (LCARC)

Thank you for providing the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian with the opportunity to respond to the Issues Paper - A Preamble for the Queensland Constitution, February 2009.

The Commission is pleased to provide you with the Commission's submission.
<<FINAL CCYPCG response to preamble doc.doc>> If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Adrienne Schneider on the below telephone number.

Kind Regards

Adrienne Schneider
Senior Policy Officer
Strategic Policy and Research
Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian

Promoting children's rights, interests and wellbeing.

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The Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian

promoting and protecting the rights, interests and wellbeing of all Queenslanders under 18

Advice to: The Chair, Legal Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee of the 52nd Parliament

Topic: Response to the Issues Paper - A Preamble for the Queensland Constitution

Date due: Friday 13 March, 2009

Thank you for inviting comment from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (the Commission) on the Issues Paper – A Preamble for the Queensland Constitution, February 2009.

The Commission supports the inclusion of a preamble into the *Constitution of Queensland Act 2001* and recommends that the preamble also contain a commitment to provide Queensland children and young people with a positive future.

Commission's recommendation:

That the preamble to Queensland's constitution include a statement about children and young people, which could follow the statement about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. An example of suggested wording is:

- We the people of Queensland, commit to providing all children and young people with the best possible opportunity to realise their potential and to participate fully and actively in Queensland's future.

Queensland's children and young people play an important role in Queensland's future prosperity and economic growth. Without children and young people's contributions, Queensland would be unable to thrive and develop in an increasingly competitive global environment.

However, until children and young people reach adulthood their contributions and willingness to actively participate in society is often overlooked or marginalised by adults.

The preamble to Queensland's constitution is an opportunity to recognise, appreciate and remind us all of the important role that children and young people play, both now and in the future. This could be achieved by including in the preamble an aspirational statement focusing on children and young people.

Please do not hesitate to contact Adrienne Schneider, Senior Policy Officer, Strategic Policy and Research Unit (ph: 3008 8984; e-mail Adrienne.schneider@ccypcg.qld.gov.au) should any aspects of this advice require clarification.