



## The Premier of Queensland

### The Role of the Premier

Following a general election, the Premier, who is the elected leader of the party or coalition of parties holding a majority in the Legislative Assembly, is commissioned by the Governor to form a government.

The position of the Premier is not recognised constitutionally but is mentioned in statutes and parliamentary standing orders. The Premier's power and authority largely depend on their relationship with parliamentary colleagues; with their political party; and the electorate in general.

The role of the Premier includes:

- leading the government and being the most dominant political figure in the state
- being the main channel of communication between:
  - the Governor and cabinet
  - the Queensland Government and other Australian state and territory governments; and
  - the Queensland Government and the Commonwealth Government and overseas governments.
- providing advice to Her Majesty The Queen on the exercise of Her Majesty's powers and functions in respect of the State of Queensland eg. the appointment and termination of appointment of the Governor;
- choosing ministers
- determining the administrative arrangements setting out the principal ministerial responsibilities of ministers and the acts which they administer;

- being the Chief Minister, chair of cabinet and having the authority to form cabinet committees
- authorising the absences of ministers from the state for up to 14 days
- authorising a minister to perform the duties and functions of another minister
- having the authority to determine when an election is to be called
- ensuring that there is adherence to the caretaker conventions and practices after a general election has been announced; and
- representing their electorate.



Portraits of some of the former Premiers of Queensland as displayed in the Premiers' Hall, Parliamentary Annexe, Brisbane



**Premiers of Queensland, 1859 - present**

10.12.1859 - 01.02.1866	Sir Robert George Wyndam HERBERT	
01.02.1866 - 20.07.1866	Arthur MACALISTER	
20.07.1866 - 07.08.1866	Sir Robert George Wyndam HERBERT	
07.08.1866 - 15.08.1867	Arthur MACALISTER	
15.08.1867 - 25.11.1868	Sir Robert Ramsay MACKENZIE	
25.11.1868 - 03.05.1870	Sir Charles LILLEY	
03.05.1870 - 08.01.1874	Sir Arthur Hunter PALMER	
08.01.1874 - 05.06.1876	Arthur MACALISTER	
05.06.1876 - 08.03.1877	George (Jnr) THORN	
08.03.1877 - 21.01.1879	John DOUGLAS	
21.01.1879 - 13.11.1883	Sir Thomas McILWRAITH	Ministerialist
13.11.1883 - 13.06.1888	Sir Samuel Walker GRIFFITH	Ministerialist
13.06.1888 - 30.11.1888	Sir Thomas McILWRAITH	Ministerialist
30.11.1888 - 12.08.1890	Boyd Dunlop MOREHEAD	Ministerialist
12.08.1890 - 27.03.1893	Sir Samuel Walker GRIFFITH	Ministerialist
27.03.1893 - 27.10.1893	Sir Thomas McILWRAITH	Ministerialist
27.10.1893 - 13.04.1898	Sir Hugh Muir NELSON	Ministerialist
13.04.1898 - 01.10.1898	Thomas Joseph BYRNES	Ministerialist
01.10.1898 - 01.12.1899	Sir James Robert DICKSON	Ministerialist
01.12.1899 - 07.12.1899	Andrew (Anderson) DAWSON	Australian Labor Party
07.12.1899 - 17.09.1903	Sir Robert PHILP	Ministerialist
17.09.1903 - 19 01.1906	Sir Arthur MORGAN	Ministerialist
19.01.1906 - 19.11.1907	William KIDSTON	Australian Labor Party
19.11.1907 - 18.02.1908	Sir Robert PHILP	Ministerialist
18.02.1908 - 07.02.1911	William KIDSTON	Australian Labor Party
07.02.1911 - 01.06.1915	Digby Frank DENHAM	Ministerialist
01.06.1915 - 22.10.1919	Thomas Joseph RYAN	Australian Labor Party
22.10.1919 - 26.02.1925	Edgar Granville THEODORE	Australian Labor Party
26.02.1925 - 22.10.1925	William Neal GILLIES	Australian Labor Party
22.10.1925 - 21.05.1929	William McCORMACK	Australian Labor Party
21.05.1929 - 17 06.1932	Arthur Edward MOORE	Nationalist
17.06.1932 - 16.09.1942	William Forgan SMITH	Australian Labor Party
16.09.1942 - 07.03.1946	Frank Arthur COOPER	Australian Labor Party
07.03.1946 - 17.01.1952	Edward Michael HANLON	Australian Labor Party



17.01.1952 - 12.08.1957	Vincent Clair GAIR	Australian Labor Party
12.08.1957 - 17.01.1968	Sir George Francis Reuben NICKLIN	Country Party
17.01.1968 - 01.08.1968	Jack Charles Allan PIZZEY	Country Party
01.08.1968 - 08.08.1968	Sir Gordon William Wesley CHALK	Liberal Party
08.08.1968 - 01.12.1987	Sir Johannes BJELKE-PETERSEN	National Party
01.12.1987 - 25.09.1989	Michael John AHERN	National Party
25.09.1989 - 07.12.1989	Theo Russell COOPER	National Party
07.12.1989 - 19.02.1996	Wayne Keith GOSS	Australian Labor Party
19.02.1996 - 26.06.1998	Robert Edward BORBIDGE	National Party
26.06.1998 - 13.09.2007	Peter Douglas BEATTIE	Australian Labor Party
13.09.2007 - 24.03.2012	Anna Maria BLIGH	Australian Labor Party
24.03.2012 - 16.02.2015	Campbell NEWMAN	Liberal National Party
16.02.2015 - present	Annastacia PALASZCZUK	Australian Labor Party