



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 May 2015

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Townsville, Community Cabinet**

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.10 pm): In March my government held its first community cabinet event in Townsville. Today I am pleased to be able to inform the House that it was a major success. The Townsville community cabinet held on 29 and 30 March gave my government the important opportunity to meet with community members, local organisations and business leaders during formal and informal deputations to discuss the issues which matter to the local community.

This community cabinet also saw the successful reinstatement of a public forum. This was met with an enthusiastic response from the people of Townsville who welcomed the opportunity to ask us questions. I do not think that seemed to happen much under the former LNP government. I do not think the Premier at the time wanted to take questions from the public.

**Ms Trad:** Spontaneous questions.

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** Spontaneous questions. Our visit was made all the more rewarding with opportunities to further engage with the Townsville community at a reception hosted by the mayor.

**Mrs Frecklington** interjected.

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** I will wait for the member for Nanango to be quiet.

**Mr Cripps** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Hinchinbrook, I do not need your assistance. I call the Premier.

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**Mr Cripps** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Hinchinbrook, I would ask you to respect the chair or you might be invited to take a short walk under standing order 253A. It is up to you. I call the Premier.

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. My cabinet colleagues and I were also joined by the Townsville business community and community organisations at a breakfast hosted by Townsville Enterprise where we discussed the importance of job creation for Queensland and the Townsville region.

Today I can announce formally to the House that my government will be holding our second community cabinet in Rockhampton on Sunday, 24 May and visiting Yeppoon on Monday, 25 May. Our government is committed to supporting Central Queensland and this two-day event will provide an opportunity for locals to meet with ministers and heads of government departments to discuss the issues affecting their local community. In particular, I am looking forward to seeing how this resilient community is recovering after Tropical Cyclone Marcia and speaking directly with members of the community about their ideas on how we can further help with their recovery efforts.

We know there is work to be done in this region and my government is eager to give the community the extra support they need to rebuild their lives, their businesses and their local area. I encourage community members, organisations and businesses to come along and have their say by participating in the open forum or by requesting a formal deputation. Further information and deputation request forms for the community cabinet event can be found on the Queensland government website.