




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Film Production

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (10.17 am): It is an exciting time for film production in Queensland with my announcement last Friday that *Thor* is set to film here next year. *Thor: Ragnarok*, the third instalment of the Marvel Studio franchise, will start pre-production in Queensland in January with filming from June 2016. This is a huge win for Queensland. *Thor* will film exclusively in Queensland with the production spending more than \$100 million in the state and employing more than 750 Queenslanders and flow-on impacts of another 2,000 jobs. What is more, it may be the first film to use the 4,000 square metre superstage at Village Roadshow's Oxenford Studios. This \$11 million investment by my government will not only be a major drawcard for international blockbuster films, it will also be fitted out to host the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games squash competition.

Yesterday I announced another international film in the pipeline, with Legendary Pictures' *Kong: Skull Island* now also confirmed to film in Queensland in early 2016. In June in Los Angeles, I met with major international studios, including Marvel Studios and Legendary Pictures, and it was made clear that Queensland is a destination of choice for major producers and international studios. We are now developing incredible momentum for our local film industry and have firmly established Queensland as a screen production hub. My government remains in negotiations with US studios to secure additional feature films, which will bring significant new money into the state, creating new jobs and economic opportunities for Queensland. Queensland's success in securing *Thor* was supported by the federal government's decision to provide a one-off uplift for this production. At 16.5 per cent, the current Australian screen production location offset is the lowest incentive internationally. A permanent increase to this offset would provide more certainty and opportunity for the sector and ultimately attract more film production to Queensland.