



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

---

Record of Proceedings, 2 December 2015

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Innovation and Investment Summit**

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.08 pm): I am pleased to advise the House that following a meeting last week of my Business Advisory Council a major Innovation and Investment Summit will be held in Brisbane on 27 and 28 April next year. In terms of shaping Queensland's economic future, this summit will be a very significant event. Last month I reported to the House on the outstanding success of an innovation and investment reception held here at parliament organised through Minister Leanne Enoch to promote the government's Advance Queensland strategy to create the jobs of the future. The reception arose from a discussion at a previous meeting of my Business Advisory Council where the need was identified for more interaction between established businesses and emerging businesses and between innovators and investors. Last month my government organised a very successful North Queensland Economic Summit held in Cairns that showcased a range of investment opportunities in key sectors including infrastructure, tourism, resources, agriculture, research and innovation. At the latest meeting of my Business Advisory Council just last week it was decided to combine the successful format of these two events and hold a major Innovation and Investment Summit here in Brisbane next April.

The summit has the strong support of members of the Business Advisory Council. Professor Sharma from QUT said that we need to work together to identify competitive advantages that stick and to combine the areas where we excel with STEM expertise—that is, science, technology, engineering and mathematics—coding and robotics because that way we will build industries of the future based on our comparative strengths. Wayne Gerard from RedEye said the summit would be important for developing a start-up business environment that works in collaboration with established industry and also attracts investment where and when it is needed most. He further said that the summit could support the development of Silicon Valley business models in Queensland focused on our strong comparative advantages and world-leading technology in mining, agriculture, logistics, biotech and medical research. This summit will provide an opportunity for Queensland's companies, start-ups, researchers and investors to come together to promote their potential. Attendees will be offered a platform to showcase their talents here from internationally renowned speakers who are leaders in their field, be inspired by the latest thinking and technologies and build new networks and partnerships. Most importantly, the summit will foster investment opportunities. Not only will we seek to attract national and international investors but the summit will also help local Queensland investors to find their next market-ready deal.