




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 31 August 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Ayliffe-Chung, Ms M and Jackson, Mr T

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.05 pm): People across Queensland and the world were shaken by the tragic events that unfolded in Home Hill last week. Sadly, we learned yesterday that two lives have now been lost. The families of Mia Ayliffe-Chung and Tom Jackson are now both grieving.

It has been reported that Mr Jackson, a British backpacker, attempted to shield Ms Ayliffe-Chung from a knife attack. It has also been reported that, in this selfless act of trying to protect Ms Ayliffe-Chung, Mr Jackson suffered serious injuries that resulted in him also losing his life.

Mr Jackson's reported actions of putting his own life before the life of Ms Ayliffe-Chung represents an extraordinary act of courage and is deserving of recognition for his brave act. That is why I have today written to the Australian Bravery Decorations Council to nominate Mr Jackson for a bravery award.

I have also spoken with Tom's father, Les. Les has asked me to pass on his thanks for the support his family is receiving from the community as well as his thanks for the local police, the paramedics and all the staff at the ICU at Townsville Hospital. These were tragic events and, on behalf of Queenslanders, I offer our thoughts and prayers to the family and loved ones of those involved.