




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Rugby League

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.46 am): Tomorrow night the defending NRL premiers, the North Queensland Cowboys, will meet the runners-up, the Brisbane Broncos, for an elimination final in Townsville. I understand that, in Townsville, the hotels are full and Townsville is ready for a massive influx of Broncos supporters—and also some Cowboys supporters.

Mr Pitt: We're ready for them, Premier.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I note that the Treasurer will also be there, going for the Cowboys. Hopefully, we will have a few Broncos supporters there as well. These two teams have had memorable clashes during the season, as they did at last year's grand final.

While we are guaranteed that a Queensland team will advance to the preliminary finals tomorrow night, this will come at the expense of another Queensland club. After tomorrow night's game, I urge all members of this parliament and, indeed all Queenslanders, to put their state ahead of their club. I urge them to back the victorious Queensland team and cheer them to victory in the grand final in Sydney on 2 October.

We have recently secured the finals for both the men and women Rugby League World Cups for Suncorp Stadium next year. We remain determined to secure an NRL final for Suncorp Stadium, possibly as soon as 2019. What a milestone it would be for a Queensland team to win the NRL premiership here in Queensland.