



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 1 September 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Liberal National Party, State Convention**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (10.17 am): What a meeting of minds it was last weekend at the LNP state conference. The Leader of the Opposition said they made 'mistakes', but the only mistake he admitted to was moving too quickly. What we do know is that those opposite moved quickly to sack 14,000 public servants, the public servants they want to respect in the House today. They had no respect for them in government, particularly when they sacked 5,000 health workers and 1,800 nurses and midwives, putting pressure on those in the system to respond to things like child safety concerns. They moved quickly to waste \$20 million of hard-earned Queensland taxpayers' money on consultants, publicists and advertising for the Strong Choices debacle. They moved so quickly that they did not even bother to read the report on the Barrett centre which said it should not be closed without a replacement.

We saw the member for Clayfield telling the LNP conference, 'Our united party is and always has been the champion of new ideas.' They are so united that the Leader of the Opposition was elected with the overwhelming support of a third of his party room. The LNP is so united that the Leader of the Opposition is the third leader of his party in two years. On the subject of new ideas, I spent some time going through the motion paper. What I did see? I saw a motion from the Young LNP, so important and critical to the future of Queensland, something at the cutting edge, about retaining knights and dames in Australia. All I can say to the Leader of the Opposition is this: ask Sir Tony Abbott how that worked out for him. Malcolm Turnbull has done nothing to change Sir Tony's policy proposals. He is opposed to same-sex marriage and opposed to climate change, but even Malcolm Turnbull knows that knights and dames do not reflect a modern Australia.

What was the motion from the Young LNP? The motion, not of the old fogies in the parliament but of the young fogies in the LNP, states—

That this convention of the LNP affirm its support for the rank of Knight/Dame of the Order of Australia.

You can see them all—Sir Tim, Dame Deb, Lord Jarrod—going around and whipping up the numbers, saying, 'We've got to get our knighthoods. We have to get this motion up.' There is no more exciting time to be an LNP member who wants a knighthood.

We also had the motion calling on the federal LNP to instruct the Commonwealth Treasury to introduce a flat tax. The last person to do that was Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen—bingo! There are the knighthoods again—at the time he was trying to take over Australia. The LNP's view of the future is more of the same from the past.

*(Time expired)*