




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MOTION

**Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption, Palaszczuk Labor
Government Response**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (6.08 pm): I move—

That this House notes:

1. it has been approximately six weeks since the final report of the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption was handed down; and
2. that the state government has still not officially responded to the findings and recommendations of the report as they pertain to Queensland;

and therefore requests the Premier to make an official statement to the House on the next sitting day that details the state government's response to each finding and recommendation as they relate to Queensland.

This is another opportunity for the Labor Party members to stand in this place and show their disassociation with the unions in Queensland, particularly the CFMEU, which combined last year with the BLF.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Already we have interjections from the usual suspect over there, the member for Brisbane Central. She is a good former union official, and I see the lectern is already out for her to speak soon. I think we have déjà vu from the debate on Tuesday night.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: All over again. They are coming into this place protecting the unions, protecting the preselections coming up for the union movement. What have we seen? We have seen the royal commission hand down damning findings with respect to the CFMEU in particular. The Premier would have us believe that there are just a few bad apples. Yet if honourable members read the royal commission report, they will see that it says—

It would be utterly naive to think that what has been uncovered is anything other than the small tip of an enormous iceberg.

When Premier Palaszczuk is up there saying that there are a few bad apples in the union movement and a former High Court judge of Australia is saying that this is the tip of the iceberg, I am going to hedge my bets on the former High Court judge. Considering he is a former High Court judge with the resources of a royal commission looking at this, I am going to go with the former High Court judge's finding. A news article about the royal commission also says that in the world of the trade union officials 'there is room for louts, thugs, bullies, thieves, perjurers and those who threaten violence'. Let me say it again: in the world of the trade union officials—and nearly every member opposite in their maiden speech last year said how great the union movement is—'there is room for louts, thugs, bullies, thieves, perjurers and those who threaten violence'. They said in the royal commission that there is

room for louts, thugs, bullies, thieves, perjurers and those who threaten violence', and that is who the Labor Party represent. That is who the Labor Party continually get up and defend in this place. That is who the Labor Party receive funding from for their elections—the CFMEU. That is who the Labor Party members rely on for their preselections: thugs, bullies, louts, thieves, perjurers and those who threaten violence, and the Labor Party members get up in this place and say how great the union movement is to Queensland.

We had silence from the Premier because, as the Premier says, there are a few bad, rotten eggs. Then we see Mr Dave Hanna, and I note the Premier had a big selfie taken with Dave Hanna who is now under prosecutorial investigation. I guarantee the Deputy Premier is smarter than the Premier; the Deputy Premier would not have appeared in a selfie with Dave Hanna. I guarantee that. What does Dave Hanna say? Honourable members can read the transcripts of the royal commission about the tonnes of documents that were shredded or burnt. 'It was just a coincidence,' they said. It was just a coincidence that the day after the royal commission asked for the documents several tonnes of documents were—

Mr Rickuss: Seven!

Mr Minnikin: Seven!

Mr BLEIJIE:—seven tonnes of documents were loaded into a horse float—not a bin, not a shredder, but loaded into a horse float. It was a coincidence! The day after the royal commission asked for documents, a horse float arrived at the CFMEU headquarters and tonnes of documents were loaded in. They then went out to Dave Hanna's farm—

An opposition member interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Giddy-up! They went out to Dave Hanna's farm. He tried to set the documents on fire but realised that the pile was too big for it to burn. So then he got a tipper truck at a cost of nearly \$1,000. He shredded the receipt for the tipper truck and then had the hide to tell the royal commission, 'It was such a coincidence. The horse float just turned up. The excavator turned up. The dump truck turned up and we just happened to throw a tea towel over the CCTV cameras. It was all a coincidence.' The cameras were hidden, the removal truck was a coincidence; it was all a big coincidence. The royal commission found the truth. The royal commission found out about these thugs, these bullies, these perjurers. The Premier has not said anything in response to the royal commission and it is high time tonight that they stand up, stop defending the union movement, disassociate from the union movement and tell the truth to Queenslanders.