




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Jobs

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (10.24 am): The Deputy Premier started her contribution by saying that she is not going to engage in cheap political pointscoreing. She could not even utter the words with a straight face. The Deputy Premier and Premier come in here and talk about jobs, but let us not let the facts get in the way of a good story. The facts of the situation are that Queensland has the worst unemployment rate in the nation now, and it had the worst number of job losses in the last year and the worst number of job losses in the last month. They want to talk about jobs, jobs, jobs; they are sugar-coating the statistics released last week.

The Minister for Training and Skills said that she travels around the state talking to young people about their skills and training. What she does not want to talk about is the national statistics released last week which showed that training completions under her watch are down 15 per cent, and Queenslanders in training have fallen in the last 12 months by 25,000 under their watch. That is 25,000 fewer Queenslanders the Minister for Training and Skills can talk to around Queensland because they are not in training. The Labor Party members talk more about their own jobs than the jobs of Queenslanders. The Premier in her first press release back in February said that her new cabinet would be focused on job creation. This is a ripper, and I quote—

“The new Cabinet is an exciting mix of experience and fresh talent,” Ms Palaszczuk said.

...

... my Cabinet is the team that will fulfil that task.

that is, the task of job creation. Then she states—

“Ministers such as Curtis Pitt, Cameron Dick and Kate Jones bring with them a wealth of previous Cabinet and Parliamentary experience, while the new faces bring their own special skills and experience.

What special skills did the member for Bundamba bring to the role? What special skills did the member for Rockhampton bring to the role—rat shooting in Rockhampton? What did the member for Mundingburra bring to the role? The Premier continues—

“Coralee O’Rourke, the Member for Mundingburra, will also be in the Cabinet ...

...

“The Assistant Minister’s position will now be filled by Stirling Hinchliffe who will directly assist me on integrity and accountability issues ...

Then the Premier states—

“I’m excited by the level of talent and fresh ideas my Ministers will bring to Cabinet.

Half of them are not sitting there anymore since that press release. They are sitting on other benches. The Minister for Tourism, Kate Jones, last week said, 'I might run for Bonney on the Gold Coast,' following her mentor Peter Beattie running for Forde. What is happening on the inner-west side of the Labor government? Is it really so horrible to be across the river from Jackie Trad? That is the question they have to ask themselves.

(Time expired)