




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Record of Proceedings, 13 June 2018

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (6.55 pm): I respectfully acknowledge that we are sitting today on the land of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging. I thank them as first Australians for their careful custodianship of the land over countless generations. May their strength and wisdom be with us to guide us. I would like to pass on my congratulations to Mr Speaker on his appointment to this high position in our parliament, and I thank him for his ongoing service to Queensland.

I am deeply honoured to again be given the opportunity to represent the wonderful people of Lytton. I love the bayside, and I really look forward to continuing to work hard for our local community so I thank the people of Lytton for returning me as their local member.

Thank you to the many committed and passionate Labor Party members and volunteers across Queensland whose support was integral to the re-election of the Palaszczuk Labor government. Their hard work and commitment to the great Labor cause is acknowledged and very much appreciated. Thanks to Evan Moorhead and Jon Persley for their contribution over the years. I congratulate Julie-Anne Campbell and Sarah Mawhinney on their appointments, and I look forward to working with them.

I would not be standing in this place today without the dedicated commitment and support of many. To my family, I thank you. Words cannot express my love and gratitude to my husband, Peter, my kids, Audrey and Callum, their partners, my sisters, my nieces, nephews, great-nephews, my in-laws, extended family and my friends. Without you I would not be able to do the job that I do. Thanks for being so understanding and accepting of my frequent apologies, my late arrivals or no-shows, so thank you and sorry.

Thank you to my campaign director, Delena Amsters, my right-hand man, Josip Vidakovic, and the many Labor Party members who supported and worked tirelessly during the campaign for me. There are so many people who helped; however, I particularly want to mention a few. Wendy Marsh, you are a legend. To Stacey, Sharon, Chrissy and Bill, thank you. To my sister Maureen, thank you. You have given freely of your time, offered great advice and been a great sounding-board, street staller, letterboxer—in fact, anything that needed doing you were always up for it, so thank you.

Darcy O'Dempsey has been a local campaigning powerhouse for many decades. Since before I was born Darcy has fought the good fight and we are all the better for it. To Paul Lucas, a former Labor member for Lytton, and Daniel Cheverton, thank you for your continued guidance, advice and support.

I fully respect and admire the work of the great union movement in Australia, ensuring that working people are protected from exploitation and have a safety net of minimum wages and conditions. This important work continues today, and I am a proud member of the Transport Workers Union.

May I congratulate the Premier on her re-election. The Premier has led our party with dignity. She has guided us with a calm and measured approach. She has listened to the people of Queensland and made our state a better place to live. With the Premier's strong leadership we will continue to make a difference for those in our community who need a hand.

We will continue to take the lead to ensure that Queensland does not get left behind and that Queenslanders get their fair share from the Turnbull federal government. I will call on those opposite to make a stand for Queensland and call out the Turnbull government to make sure that we get our fair share.

What a difference we have already made. During our first term of government we committed to creating jobs, building important infrastructure, introducing important social justice reforms—one of which we have just passed this evening—growing the economy and restoring our vital front-line services. The Palaszczuk government has made good on those promises. We have created over 170,000 jobs for Queenslanders, with the unemployment rate falling significantly during our time in office. We have committed \$40 billion for Queensland infrastructure over the next four years which will create many jobs for Queenslanders for years to come and ensure our state keeps moving forward, and we have delivered record tourism growth with new flight services in Cairns, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

We have reduced the cost of living by delivering electricity rebates for pensioners and seniors, by extending support to low-income households and by slashing public transport fares saving commuters hundreds of dollars a year.