




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Regional Sitzings of Parliament, Townsville

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (4.39 pm): On behalf of those on the LNP side of the House, I thank Townsville. We have had such an amazing week having regional parliament right here in the north. Along with the Premier I thank everyone, and particularly the people of Townsville, for being so welcoming to the Queensland parliament. Some 15 hours away from Brisbane, we have been able to transform this amazing building into the Queensland parliament. I thank you, Mr Speaker, and your staff. I thank the Clerk, Neil Laurie, and the Deputy Clerk, Michael Ries. I thank all of the attendants and parliamentary staff who have been so wonderful to us this week. This week it was wonderful to share my birthday with two parliamentary attendants, Mark and Chris, who were working to keep the parliament going.

I acknowledge all the schoolchildren who came and enjoyed the Queensland parliament. Like the Premier, we spoke to as many schoolchildren as possible. I had a lovely chat with students from Giru State School, in the electorate of the member for Burdekin. They had some wonderful suggestions to add to those that you mentioned this morning, Mr Speaker; however, I cannot repeat some of them. I do not think it would help either side of the House!

I would like to thank all of the Townsville locals and North Queenslanders who travelled so far to come and visit Queensland parliament here in Townsville. I would like to give a special acknowledgement to Sandy Frost, who is sitting in the gallery. She has travelled all the way from Clermont to come and enjoy the parliament and have a conversation with some of our shadow ministers and MPs here in Townsville.

I would like to thank the Queensland Police Service who have kept us safe this week. It is a massive job. There are 93 members of parliament, and we are all individuals at best, I can say. To have the police looking out for all of us it has been absolutely wonderful.

Ms Palaszczuk interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I am not going to take that interjection, Premier. We would like to thank them all very, very much. They have kept us safe. Even though there have not been a huge number of protesters, the police have done a wonderful job.

I would also like to thank all of the staff from both sides of the House, all of the MPs and all of the shadow ministers and ministers. Thank you all very much for making us so welcome to Townsville. We look forward to coming back.