




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

Record of Proceedings, 28 February 2019

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

International Mother Language Day; World Science Festival Brisbane

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Alger—ALP) (Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts) (10.04 am): In the spirit of International Mother Language Day, I acknowledge all the first nations peoples in this state who are still piecing together much of their language after many generations of being denied the right to even speak their language. In that spirit, I acknowledge the Jundai language that the Quandamooka people use. I say, 'Yura,' to everybody here. 'Ngali jagijin marumba balga yari gana.' That means let us welcome the good spirits here where we talk, think and understand.

Today I rise to talk about how once again this government is showcasing Queensland as an international destination for scientific ideas and innovation by hosting another World Science Festival Brisbane next month. This festival is one of the world's most engaging, exciting and educational science events and I am thrilled that the Palaszczuk government has played such an integral part in bringing this event to Australia until 2021. This is the only festival of its kind in the Asia-Pacific region. This year's festival, presented by the Queensland Museum, will take place in Gladstone, Townsville, Ipswich, Brisbane, Toowoomba and Chinchilla throughout March.

World Science Festival invites us to venture into the unknown as world renowned experts explore topics from forensic science to DNA, space, the stars and moving to Mars. This is the festival's fourth big year. From international pioneers and ground breakers to homegrown trailblazers, World Science Festival Brisbane 2019 offers thought-provoking conversation and signature events, brave new ideas and stimulating debate on some of the biggest challenges confronting humankind in the face of the planet's increasing population and escalating climate change.

Each year World Science Festival Brisbane attracts hundreds of national and international science community members to engage with thousands of visitors across the state, along with the millions who connect with the festival online. Last year the festival attracted more than 200,000 visits and delivered more than 100 events across six locations. It also attracted more than 200 enthusiastic volunteers. Here in Queensland more than 15,000 people identify as scientists, which is the third highest in Australia. The festival is truly a statewide celebration of all things science and I look forward to another fantastic event where visitors, young and old, can meet the champions of science and explore the dynamic connection between science and our everyday world.