



Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, The Gabba

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.39 am): Yesterday cabinet met to endorse the Queensland government's formal proposal to secure the 2032 Brisbane Queensland Olympic and Paralympic Games. The cabinet also received a briefing by Mr John Coates, President of the Australian Olympic Committee and Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee. The 2032 games would be an event for all of Queensland. They would showcase Queensland to the world and support 130,000 direct jobs right across our state. The economic benefit to Queensland of hosting the games is \$20 billion in increased tourism alone. Half of this would be spent in regional Queensland as the world explores where *Waltzing Matilda* comes from and where Qantas was born, not to mention the Great Barrier Reef and all the natural wonders and World Heritage Listed national parks. Although no decision has yet been made on who will host 2032, the International Olympic Committee has identified our bid for targeted dialogue. In other words, we are not yet at the finish line but we are in the box seat.

Queensland's bid for the 2032 games are a value-for-money proposition. Over 80 per cent of our proposed venues already exist, with the need for seven new venues identified. There will be lots of work that needs to be done though. I am determined to not only have the games hosted in Queensland but to have them built by Queenslanders too. We are already making more things in Queensland and these games would supercharge that. Queensland's global reputation as a major events destination has also held our bid in good stead. The 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games showed how equipped we were to host world-class events.

Today I have further good news for Queensland: I am pleased to announce our famous Gabba as the proposed main stadium should Queensland host the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. In our view, the Gabba fits all of the criteria because it has been home to sport in this state since 1895, and the Treasurer gave us a wonderful history lesson on that this morning. It is well loved and used for AFL and cricket—of course we hosted the final of the AFL last year—and in fact it is used on average for more than 40 weeks of the year. Our Gabba is two kilometres from the CBD and a three-minute train ride on the new Cross River Rail, and I am quite sure that the minister for Cross River Rail will give us a detailed overview of that as well. Cross River Rail is already delivering a station on the stadium's doorstep. It is just perfect. A pedestrian plaza would link it to the Gabba and potentially become an Olympic venue on its own suitable for concerts and even medal presentations, further opening up the games to more people.

We cannot achieve this goal on our own. We need the support of all levels of government—local, state and federal all working together. Queensland does not ask for any more than our fair share. Business leaders agree that 2032 is the lightning rod to stimulate investment in our state and turbocharge infrastructure projects. The prize for that is simple: more jobs. The Gabba deserves to become our next world-class stadium—our own Olympic stadium. It has served us well for 126 years.

We need to write a new chapter in its story for the next century. I want to thank the Minister for Sport, Stirling Hinchliffe, for all of the work that he has been doing. There have been regular meetings of the Olympics task force, and let me tell everyone that those meetings are very long and very detailed.