




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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BRISBANE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES ARRANGEMENTS BILL 2021

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (2.51 pm): Like World Expo 88, the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games will herald a golden age for Queensland over the next decade and beyond. This is an exciting time for all Queenslanders, particularly for our young people. Our name will be on the world stage up there with Tokyo, Paris and Los Angeles. Brisbane will now follow in the footsteps of our southern neighbours as well in Melbourne and Sydney in becoming an Olympic host city. It is fantastic to see that the planning is now underway to make sure that we are positioned to have one of the most successful games in history.

The main function of the corporation and the board that is being established under this bill will be to facilitate the organisation, conduct, promotion and commercial and financial management of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I congratulate the Redland city mayor, Karen Williams, on her appointment to the board. I genuinely hope that it is a great working relationship, one that is productive and collaborative with the Queensland state government.

The corporation will manage the obligations of the planning and delivery of the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympics at no cost to the Queensland taxpayer, which I think is important. Economic benefits will definitely provide certainty and confidence to invest in Queensland over the next decade and beyond and will certainly be a catalyst to see great innovation across Queensland. It will drive industry investment in new skills. It will enhance and grow our supply chains, particularly across the areas of construction, manufacturing and tourism.

Over the next 20 years, the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games is forecast to generate increased international tourism and trade estimated at \$4.6 billion for Queensland and \$8.5 billion nationally. It hopes to create approximately 91,600 full-time-equivalent jobs in Queensland and 122,900 jobs across the nation; \$3.5 million dollars in important social benefits to Queensland and \$9.11 billion nationally, including improvements to health, community connectedness and, of course, pride in our communities. A 10-year pipeline of construction jobs, trade and investment opportunities and legacy projects will see lasting benefits for decades to come. All eyes will be on Queensland.

I want to talk a little bit about infrastructure and legacy. The Brisbane 2032 games will be an accelerator to fast-track the long-term delivery of statewide and regional priorities. I know that the member for Capalaba and I will certainly be advocating for transport infrastructure upgrades across our region. We know that we have a lot of games venues that are connected from the Brisbane CBD out to our bayside. It will be extraordinarily important to make sure that we are planning that transport corridor and making sure it is a seamless ride out to Chandler, out to the whitewater rafting venue and to the Anna Meares Velodrome.

I have had the great opportunity of working across two decades for Cox Architecture, which is very big in sports planning. I know at the heart of every Olympic and Paralympic Games is the master plan that integrates venues, accommodation and other facilities that form the backbone for hosting events. We were fortunate in 2008 when we were commissioned to design the Beijing sailing venue. In

Sydney 2000, we were part of the original process for the Homebush Bay master plan and then commissioned to deliver athletics training venues, the aquatic centre, the baseball stadium and the main indoor arena. We know that our convention and exhibition centres also play a very important role in delivering venue opportunity.

For the Tokyo Olympics, we entered a design competition for the national stadium. It was one of those big things. Unfortunately, we were not successful; however, the design was really quite spectacular.

The master plan at the moment identifies 37 competition venues required for hosting 28 Olympic and 22 Paralympic sports. There are six new venues and eight venues will receive major upgrades. For my region, that means a new Redlands whitewater centre to host the canoe slalom, which made its debut in the 1972 Munich games. Slalom racing did not compete again in the Olympics until the 1992 Barcelona games. This facility will leave an ongoing legacy for our Redlands community.

It will be similar to the ongoing legacy that everybody in our region will concur was left by the Chandler Sleeman Sports Complex, which was built in 1982 for the Commonwealth Games, and also the Anna Meares Velodrome, which Cox Architecture also designed. It is a fantastic facility and continues to deliver an ongoing legacy to our community. I know that many young people love the BMX track out there. It really is a fantastic venue. It holds, as I said, the velodrome, the BMX Supercross track, the Brisbane Aquatic Centre, the Chandler Arena, the outdoor velodrome, and the Chandler Theatre. There are a range of different sports medicine players out in that space. It also has the diving facility there. Chandler will play a very big part in the 2032 Olympics, hosting the gymnastics, diving, artistic swimming and water polo. That is really very exciting for Redlands.

The Brisbane International Shooting Centre, which is also on the edge of Redlands, was built historically in 1968 and used by the Queensland Target Sports Group. It is set to host four international level shooting ranges at the 10-, 25-, 50-metre range and finals. Again, that is another great venue.

In the member for Lytton's electorate, which is also on our border, we have the Brisbane Royal Yacht Club at Manly harbour. I am really pleased to say that one of our young Olympians from the Tokyo Olympics, Mara Stransky, a young sailor and incredible young woman, will get the opportunity to compete on her home ground. I think that is very exciting.

In terms of the opportunity that it provides for our young people, on Remembrance Day I was out at Victoria Point State School with one of the young leaders, who is an incredible young athlete in hurdles and running. He was telling me that he is already thinking in his mind how he plans his pathway to the 2032 Olympics. That is an exciting opportunity for all our young people to think about. These games will inspire the imaginations of our young people and what is actually possible, which is fantastic.

In terms of our Redlands athletes, in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics we had Mara Stransky, as I mentioned. She lives on Russell Island. I want to give a shout-out to BIMSARA, which supports young people across our island community. They did an incredible job of fundraising. It is not cheap to be an athlete: not only is there the time investment but also the money investment. They were key in helping get Mara to the Tokyo Olympics.

Cassiel Rousseau showed promise in the men's diving on the 10-metre platform. He finished eighth in the finals in Tokyo. Melissa Wu scored a bronze medal in the women's 10-metre platform diving final. Taylor Worth of Birkdale made it to the round of 16 in the men's archery. Alannah Mathews of Sheldon competed as part of the five-member rhythmic gymnastics group. Shannon Parry of Cleveland was part of the women's Rugby Sevens squad. Emily Gielnik of Alexandra Hills, in the member for Capalaba's patch, was part of the Matildas Olympic squad. BMX rider Logan Martin took the gold medal in the men's BMX freestyle. That was really fantastic to see.

We also had fantastic participation in the Paralympics with swimmer Jake Michel, who scored a silver in the men's 100-metre breaststroke and swimmer Paige Leonhardt from my patch in Thornlands, who scored silver in the women's 100-metre butterfly. She also finished sixth in the women's 100-metre breaststroke and sixth in the women's 200-metre individual medley. Honourable members can see from that enormous list of Redlanders who are participating across Queensland the benefit of allowing our athletes to shine in their own home space. It is a really exciting opportunity and it is exciting for all Queenslanders to be able to celebrate our incredible athletes.

In conclusion, I support the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Bill 2021. As I said, this is a golden age and Queensland's best days are ahead of us. I commend this bill to the House.