



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 August 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Path to Treaty**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (9.48 am): Queensland's journey to a new future involving First Nations and non-Indigenous Queenslanders is a path we tread with care and conviction. We must acknowledge past injustices and we must address their legacy.

The actions that will commence with today's Path to Treaty ceremony are historic steps on that path, and we must ensure that those steps can be taken with as much confidence as possible. That is why last year's budget delivered our historic \$300 million Path to Treaty Fund. The returns of that fund, in the order of \$20 million each and every year, will support those actions. No other jurisdiction in the Commonwealth has created such a sustainable funding model as Queensland, providing much needed financial certainty through the treaty process.

The treaty fund and its returns are a direct investment in creating a better future for all First Nations people and for all Queenslanders. The treaty fund will enable the establishment of a First Nations Treaty Institute which will develop a treaty-making framework. The fund will enable a Path to Treaty office, building the government's capacity to be treaty ready and building awareness of the process across our state.

The fund will enable the establishment of a truth-telling and healing inquiry, chronicling the history of colonisation and the, at times, appalling impacts that caused for First Nations people. This process will be long. At times it will be necessarily painful, but a stronger, more compassionate Queensland will emerge as a result—a Queensland that treats our First Nations people with respect and allows a better, more truthful understanding of culture and history. Most importantly, it will allow the development of a platform of opportunity that provides tangible benefits and enables full social and economic participation in the life of our state and our nation for our First Nations people.