




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 10 May 2022

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games; Mooloolah River

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.16 pm): Thank you very much, Monsieur le President. ‘A dix ans des Jeux, Brisbane 2032 s’offre une premiere polemique.’ I hear the question asked: what on earth did he just say? I did French at school. I may not have passed French, but I did it. What it said is this: ‘Ten years before the games, Brisbane 2032 has its first controversy.’

Ms PEASE: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker. I am of the understanding that English must be spoken in this chamber.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order!

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not need the assistance of members of this House when I am taking points of order. I will hear points of order in silence. I was seeking advice in relation to exactly that point, Member. There is no standing order that you have to speak English in this House. However, there is a convention that you should provide an English translation to Hansard at the completion of your speech. I was taking that advice so I do not know whether the member provided the translation.

Mr BLEIJIE: The translation, as I did suggest, is: ‘Ten years before the games, Brisbane 2032 has its first controversy.’ That is from the French media. I table that for the House.

Tabled paper. Article from *FrancsJeux.com*, dated 4 May 2022, titled ‘Ten years before the Games, Brisbane 2032 has its first controversy’ [617](#).

We would think that 10 years out from the games that the international media would be focused on how great the games are going to be in Brisbane in 2032—all the athletes, the International Olympic Committee and everybody getting together. The first media we get is about the boyfriend. The French media—

Mr Nicholls: The language of love.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection. The first piece of media about the Olympics where Queensland gets to shine internationally is the petit ami—boyfriend, translated for members. That is what the Premier did. When the Premier was asked about it.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Comments will be directed through the chair.

Mr BLEIJIE: When the Premier was asked about it at the Labour Day march, she said, ‘It was all informal. There was nothing to it. They just happened to be in Sydney.’ They just happened to be in Sydney with the International Olympic Committee chair, the Australian Olympic Committee chair, the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, her chief of staff and two spin doctors. They just all happened to be in the same place at the same time.

The first question is: why on earth would you have a Brisbane 2032 Olympic meeting in Sydney? Secondly, the photographs revealed it for what it was. It was not an informal get-together and they all happened to be down there. There were papers, minutes of the meeting, an agenda and name tags. The chief of staff was relegated to the back table. The Premier's petit ami—boyfriend—was at the table. It shows a complete lack of judgement on the part of the Premier. Why do we see it?

An opposition member: Arrogant.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection—third-term Labor government arrogance. This Premier believes she can do what she wants without consequences. She is not listening. It is that 'ruler' mentality. When faced with a barrage of criticism, she came out the next day trying to convince Queenslanders she understands that she made a mistake. It was rubbish. It was only because they got hammered on the news that night that she was forced to apologise. She did not mean it. She is trying to pull a Peter Beattie with her constant apologies. I note that she is making a lot of apologies lately—and she ought to—on everything, including the crime crisis, the housing crisis and the health crisis, but it is not believable. No-one believes it. They do not believe it because la Premiere abandonee l'integrite! The Premier has abandoned integrity in this state. That is a translation for Labor members.

The Premier has absolutely abandoned all forms of integrity in this state. She should be ashamed. She is not listening. It was a complete lack of judgement on her part to have her boyfriend sitting at the official table. Queenslanders will not forget. The Premier has stopped listening to them. Queenslanders are sick and tired of a celebrity Premier. Who could forget that she allowed celebrities in when Queenslanders were locked out? She allowed footballers' wives, boyfriends and girlfriends over the border to live it up at a Gold Coast hotel while cutting Queenslanders off at the border—not even letting Queensland citizens in—because she prefers to walk the red carpet every day than rolling up her sleeves and working on behalf of Queenslanders. Rather than fixing the health crisis, the housing crisis, the integrity crisis—all of the crises we are having in Queensland—she would rather be seen with the flash mob with the celebrity status she has. It is a shame. Queenslanders are not falling for it anymore.

In the short remaining time I will address a huge issue on the Sunshine Coast: the Mooloolah River entrance. I note the minister is in the chamber today. Another trawler called *Here you go Donna* got stuck today trying to get into Mooloolaba harbour. The member for Maroochydore and I recently met Rachel Bermingham from Beach Matters Group. Nothing is being done. In a question on notice, the Minister for Transport said they have a review happening. People's lives are at risk because of the dangerous Mooloolah River entrance to the harbour. It has to be fixed before people lose their lives.

(Time expired)