



## Speech By Hon. Leeanne Enoch

## MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2022

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

## Algester Electorate, NAIDOC Week; Path to Treaty

**Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts) (2.52 pm): We have been listening to the member for Glass House. Considering that we did have a whole heap of laptop lies out there and we are still waiting on that apology, they talk about transparency.

**Mr LANGBROEK:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member has used unparliamentary language. The word that I will not repeat is unparliamentary.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Thank you for the point of order. The context that the language was used in does not, in my view, constitute unparliamentary language. However, we will review the transcript later and if necessary change that ruling. At this stage, I do not rule a point of order.

**Ms ENOCH:** This year we celebrated NAIDOC Week with the theme 'Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!', which encourages communities to come together to make meaningful and impactful change while recognising and celebrating First Nations culture. Each year, NAIDOC Week offers an opportunity to reflect on our shared past and work toward a reconciled future. I was impressed by the many celebrations seen across the Algester electorate during this year's NAIDOC Week. In my electorate of Algester I am fortunate to have many fantastic schools, all of which boast a safe, supportive and welcoming learning environment for students to grow in. It has been my pleasure to visit those schools regularly during my time as the member for Algester.

Recently, I attended Acacia Ridge State School where NAIDOC Week was celebrated with an assembly that began with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance groups sharing cultural dances with the students. The school community was also treated to an immersive didgeridoo performance, which everyone loved. The assembly concluded with an opportunity for all attendees to contribute to a wonderful piece of art that I understand will be displayed at the school. It was a very special and moving moment for everyone at Acacia Ridge State School and I congratulate them on the event.

I was also fortunate recently to attend Pallara Childcare to present the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags as part of their NAIDOC celebrations. The children greeted me with their acknowledgement of the land and people around them. Even though the children are of such a young age, it was wonderful to see them acknowledging and recognising the importance of First Nations culture and history.

Across the Algester electorate many other NAIDOC celebrations occurred including events at Algester State School, Calamvale Community College, Browns Plains State School and many more. At the much loved Acacia Ridge NAIDOC celebrations hosted at the Murri School, the community gathered for a kup murri. The underground oven was built by Murri School students, staff and community members and was enjoyed by all. The Murri School hopes to host more kup murris throughout the year to bring the community together and share culture.

This is all happening as the Palaszczuk government embarks on the next step on our path to treaty. These events will become even more important as we continue on the path to treaty in this state. I acknowledge the Premier for her incredible leadership with regard to our path to treaty and the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister Crawford. I acknowledge my colleagues the member for Cook and the member for Bundamba.

Mostly, I want to acknowledge the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Indigenous people who, over many decades, have dedicated their life's work to getting us to this point with regard to treaty. I think about my grandparents, my parents and the many aunts and uncles whom I have witnessed committing many years of their lives to these efforts. I encourage and acknowledge all of that as we move forward on our path to treaty in Queensland.