



Speech By  
**Nikki Boyd**


**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

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## **MOTION**

### **Jobs, Skills and Training**

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (12.33 pm): It is a pleasure to follow that delusional contribution from the member for Everton. I will jog the member's memory: back in March we held a job summit here in Queensland. Over 350 community and industry leaders came together and fed into the strategy that we have launched this very week. The member might want to tune in a little more and maybe have a little more of a focus, aside from on the footy game and what is happening in Central Queensland.

It is a pleasure to rise in support of the Deputy Premier's motion regarding skills and jobs. It is a pertinent motion to debate today as the Albanese government is holding the national Jobs and Skills Summit. After a decade of inaction from the LNP, our country's wages growth has not just stagnated but gone backwards and businesses are desperate for skilled workers. Our country is in dire need of a stronger, fairer system with wage growth, skills and training at its centre. Undeniably, the biggest challenge facing our country right now is the one that we are debating today. That leads me to wonder: where is the LNP on this? Federal opposition leader Peter Dutton was invited to attend the summit. Do you reckon he will show?

**Mr Power:** No.

**Ms BOYD:** I take the interjection; I do not reckon he will either. It appears that showing up is a problem for the LNP right now, if last night's adjournment debate was anything to go by. Do you know what, Mr Deputy Speaker? I represent the same community as Dutton and any honourable member would have to ask only a few people on the street to find out pretty quickly that he makes a habit of not showing up. For weeks now the federal opposition has used this as an opportunity to bash, but it is the same old song sheet here in Queensland too.

If ever you needed an example of de-skilled, you need look no further than the opposition. The diary of the opposition leader has demonstrated that the struggle is real. How tremendously has this week's attack on our Premier backfired? Under Campbell Newman, the LNP were designing a courtroom for cabinet meetings. Under his consigliere, they found themselves holding shadow cabinet in a dining room. It seems that they have traded the gavel for a fork. All that the Leader of the Opposition has accomplished is the ability to clear a room and get egg on his face. What are they waiting on: the Last Supper? The shadow cabinet have taken their name quite literally and are lurking so far in the shadows that no-one can see or hear them. They have no plans, no legislation, no ideas and no contribution, aside from confected scandals and fearmongering.

It is little wonder that this style of conservative leadership in politics has left our nation in such a state. When the LNP last sat on the government benches, Queenslanders helplessly looked on as they cut \$170 million out of training and skills. Whether it is with Back to Work, Skilling Queenslanders for Work or general investment in skills and training, the LNP will never make a constructive contribution in this place.