



Speech By  
**Hon. Craig Crawford**


**MEMBER FOR BARRON RIVER**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2023

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Path to Treaty

 **Hon. CD CRAWFORD** (Barron River—ALP) (Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) (9.53 am): This morning we celebrated yesterday's historic passing of the treaty bill at the treaty breakfast. The students in the gallery will notice that beside me, where the parliamentary mace sits, is a broken spear—a gift from the Guugu Yimithirr people of the Cooktown region—which has sat on the table here today in a very significant and symbolic gesture towards that important bill that we passed.

**A government member** interjected.

**Mr CRAWFORD:** I am sorry, it was here all week; you are correct. Already we are looking towards the next steps on Queensland's path to treaty. Passing the bill now allows us to establish the Treaty Institute and the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry. Our next job is to prepare the terms of reference for the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry. On those terms of reference I will consult with the Interim Truth and Treaty Body and any person I consider has the skills, knowledge and experience relevant to the functions of the inquiry. It is expected that the terms of reference will be approved in 2023, following advice from the ITTB, and inquiry member and institute council member recruitment is expected to commence straightaway. I certainly encourage any member of the Queensland community who has the skill set that we require for either the council position or the inquiry to consider their role in stepping forward.

For the inquiry, in appointing the five members I will ensure that the inquiry reflects the gender diversity of Queensland and that the majority of the five members are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—at least one member who is an Aboriginal person and at least one member who is a Torres Strait Islander person. I will also ensure that one member is a lawyer of five years standing who I consider has the experience relevant to the functions of the inquiry. In appointing the members of the Treaty Institute Council, I will ensure that all 10 members are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

We will commence these next steps immediately, and I encourage all Queenslanders who have the relevant skill set or know of someone with a relevant skill set to step forward and have a conversation with government.