




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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MOTION

Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, Address of Congratulations

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (12.34 pm): The opposition is honoured to support this motion. The crowning of a new monarch is something relatively few Queenslanders have experienced until the events of Saturday, 6 May. Indeed, throughout the course of the state of Queensland's 164 years only five coronations have been held—those of Edward VII, George V, George VI, Elizabeth II and Charles III. The coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, while not an essential part of the process of accession, is an important symbol of the role played by the monarch. The coronation itself was a combination of the traditional—drawing on ceremonies, language and symbols that were first used in the coronation of Anglo-Saxon King Edgar—and the modern, including 12 new commissions of music and the involvement of the representatives of a range of religious denominations. The melding of the old and the new points to the enduring strength of the monarchy and its capacity to evolve to meet changing circumstances and new challenges.

Institutions have no right to exist in their own right. They must reflect the changing views, aspirations and beliefs of the community they serve. Central to this is the notion of service—something that His Majesty, drawing on the example of his late mother, has acknowledged on many occasions. Indeed, the coronation commenced with His Majesty proclaiming to those in Westminster Abbey and those watching throughout the world, 'I come not to be served but to serve.'

From the time of his investiture as Prince of Wales in 1969 he pursued interests and causes that he regarded as central to the future of his people. Although he faced varying degrees of indifference, scepticism and even hostility, he stayed the course and is now acknowledged as a champion of causes that now fall well within the mainstream. His son, the current Prince of Wales, summarised these during the post-coronation celebrations when he said—

Take the natural world. He warned us of the risks to our planet's health long before it was an everyday issue.

Or the Prince's Trust. It has supported over a million young people, many from disadvantaged backgrounds, to realise their ambitions.

And, perhaps most importantly of all, my father has always understood that people of all faiths, all backgrounds, and all communities, deserve to be celebrated and supported.

His Majesty has fulfilled his destiny, a destiny he has faced since the day of his birth in 1948. Few monarchs have been better prepared to assume the responsibility that His Majesty now faces. The examples of his grandfather George VI, who led the United Kingdom and the Empire through its greatest challenges in the Second World War, and his mother, Elizabeth II, who led the Commonwealth through 70 years of post-war change, provide firm foundations upon which to build a successful reign.

Following the 1953 coronation and between November 1953 and May 1954, Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh visited 13 countries in the West Indies, Australasia, Asia and Africa, covering more than 64,000 kilometres by land, sea and air. This is an example many Australians will wish to see

repeated over the next 12 months. His Majesty's fondness for Australia, Australians and Queensland is well recorded, beginning with times he spent back here in the sixties. His Majesty has also visited Queensland on at least seven occasions, and it is our wish that the King and Queen will soon visit our state. We wish Their Majesties a long reign. We are confident that the King will continue to serve his people with dedication, understanding and commitment, and we look forward to the day when we can all welcome King Charles and Queen Camilla to Queensland.