



Speech By  
**Jarrod Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2023

**MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.05 pm): As they say in the classics, 'Roll on up! Roll on up! The best circus in town has arrived!' Is it, I hear you ask, Madam Deputy Speaker, the Moscow Circus? No. The Lennon Bros Circus? No. The Barnum & Bailey Circus? No. Cirque du Soleil? No, no, no! It is the 'Circus du Chaos'. The 'Circus du Chaos' has arrived in town! It has been around for a while but comes with a so-called new fresh face, a new marquee—no new faces but some of the biggest clowns, just in changed costumes. Do not be fooled by the changed new costumes. Do not be fooled by the new performances. It is the same old circus with the same old clowns.

As Bon Jovi sang, the more things change, the more they stay the same. 'The more things change, the more they stay the same!' As Cher said, 'Turn back time!' That is what the Palaszczuk government would have us believe today. They will have Queenslanders believe that they are turning back time because, as we know, the more things change, the more they stay the same!

I hear when the ringmaster, the Premier herself, changed the roles there were lots of unhappy performers in the ministry, and we hear that the underperforming ministers found out about their side-shoe shuffle when it broke on Channel 9. Absolutely! Imagine finding out in the media that you have been side-shoe shuffled out of a job. They saw it on Channel 9 when it broke that night, and then what followed, what ensued, was ministers leaking against each other, leaking against the Premier. The gossip! It was just two days of chaos. Chaos reigned supreme under the Palaszczuk government.

The latest circus act of reshuffling has the same jokers in the same deck. These are the same clowns, the same circus and the crisis circus performing the same circus act. Take, for instance, Minister Bailey, the juggler, who cannot juggle projects to deliver them on time or on budget and now he is responsible, believe it or not, for digital services. How are those emails going, mate? Delete, delete, delete!

Of course you have the mime act. Every good circus needs a mime act. Minister Crawford is the mime: he is around, but he never says a lot. The only thing we give him credit for was the Path to Treaty in Cairns two weeks ago and he got sacked because he did such a great job! They thanked him. They said in Cairns, 'This is an amazing effort, Minister. This is what you have done,' and then they rolled him.

**An honourable member:** They stabbed him in the back with a spear!

**Mr BLEIJIE:** I take the interjection. He even presented a spear to the parliament and then the Premier gave him credit for getting the Path to Treaty through the parliament and then turned her back and said this morning in parliament that the reason for the reshuffle was after the Path to Treaty Bill had passed, she had time to consider. Oh, no, it was not because of former health minister Yvette D'Ath and her failings. It was not because of the failings of the former youth justice minister. It was not because

of the failings of the Treasurer to deal with the cost-of-living crisis or the former housing minister to deal with the housing crisis. No, no, no! It was the very successful Path to Treaty which passed parliament. That is why Minister Crawford got the sack from that portfolio.

Of course the new health minister Fentiman, the tightrope walker, has been given health. She dare not put a foot wrong or it is all over for her in the Left. There is also the knife-throwing act, the Deputy Premier—straight into the back of the new health minister. There is no-one more pleased than Yvette D'Ath to get out of that portfolio. The Deputy Premier was happy to have Minister Fentiman in the health portfolio to put a stop to her leadership ambitions.

Then there is Minister Farmer, who talked this morning about repeat serial offenders. I was sitting here wondering whether she was talking about juvenile criminals or the Palaszczyk ministers, who are serial incompetent offenders in this government. Nothing has changed.

I feel for the backbench. I even offered to write references for a couple of them—only a couple—which they rejected. I was hopeful they would take up the cudgels, but no-one in the Labor backbench is worthy of promotion. The Premier said that herself!

**Mr Tantari** interjected.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** The member for Hervey Bay should not take my word for it; he should take his leader's word for it because she said it herself. Minister Furner, the agriculture minister, is now sitting next to Minister Farmer—the closest he will ever get to a farmer in his life. This government is a joke. This government is in chaos. This government—

*(Time expired)*