



Speech By  
**Hon. Scott Stewart**


**MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 March 2023

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Critical Minerals; World Mining Congress**

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (11.20 am): As many in this House are aware, Queensland is blessed with some of the best deposits of critical minerals anywhere in the world.

**Ms Pugh:** Hear, hear!

**Mr STEWART:** Thank you. These minerals are key ingredients in renewable energy technologies like batteries and electric vehicles; however, we need to let the world know that Queensland—particularly the North West Minerals Province—has what it takes to be a global leader in critical minerals production and that we are open for business. That is why a special delegation from my department travelled to Canada earlier this month to attend the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada, PDAC, annual Mineral Exploration & Mining Convention.

**A government member:** That is a mouthful.

**Mr STEWART:** Absolutely. The four-day event attracts up to 30,000 attendees from 130 countries—the combined population of Mount Isa and Cloncurry. Our Queensland delegation is part of a larger Australian minerals team shining the global spotlight on the state's critical minerals deposits, infrastructure and environmental, social and governance credentials. The delegation met with exploration and mining companies with investment interests in Queensland, along with government representatives from our key trade partners, to explore investment opportunities in this great state.

Following the Palaszczuk government's recent announcement that we are investing \$5 billion in CopperString, I could not think of a better time to show off our critical minerals on the world stage. Through CopperString 2032, resource companies from around the world can have confidence in the development of critical minerals projects and the broader North West Minerals Province. Speaking of global stages, this trip helped to spread the word that Queensland will soon be the centre of the mining world when we host the World Mining Congress in just three months time. We will host delegates from around 50 countries, with 400 presenters, 26 exhibitor nations and more than 1,000 organisations in attendance. Hosting the 2032 World Mining Congress is our opportunity to show the rest of the world that Queensland is the place to be when it comes to exceptional mining services, infrastructure, safety and environmental, social and governance credentials.