



Speech By  
**John Barounis**


**MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 April 2025

**MOTION**

**Olympic and Paralympic Games, Delivery Plan**

 **Mr BAROUNIS** (Maryborough—LNP) (4.55 pm): Mr Speaker, I stand before you today with immense pride and excitement as I share incredible news for my electorate of Maryborough and the entire Fraser Coast region. Last week we received an announcement that sent a wave of enthusiasm through our community: archery will be hosted in Maryborough as part of the 2032 Olympic Games.

First and foremost, I express my heartfelt gratitude to the Crisafulli government and the Olympic committee for selecting our community to host this remarkable event. This is a gift that we will cherish for years to come. The people of Maryborough and the Fraser Coast are absolutely overjoyed by the opportunity to showcase our beautiful region to the world. This event will bring athletes from across the globe, but it is not just the competitors who will be visiting us. The media coverage, the tourists and the spectators will shine a spotlight on the Fraser Coast like we have never seen before. We are ready to embrace this influx of visitors with open arms, and I know that our community will make them feel right at home.

There is a personal connection for me with this announcement. As members may know, I am of Greek heritage so it seems particularly fitting that the sport of archery has been awarded to the very electorate I represent. Archery has deep roots in Greece as it was one of the earliest and most celebrated sports in ancient Greek culture. Apollo, the god of archery, is one of the most famous Olympians in Greek mythology. Philoctetes was another Greek hero who was involved in the Trojan War and a very skilled archer. Like Apollo and Philoctetes, the member for Hervey Bay, David Lee, and I are going to work together as a powerful pair, collaborating and planning for the spectacular archery event on the Fraser Coast in 2032.

I am so excited about what this means for our community and I would like to share with the House our new name: 'Olympic-borough'. Thank you all, and let's get ready to make the 2032 Olympics a truly unforgettable experience here in Queensland and on the Fraser Coast.