



## Speech By **Nikki Boyd**

**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

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### **PRIVATE MEMBER STATEMENT**

#### **Local Government Association Conference**

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.06 pm): Queensland's local governments came together on the Gold Coast, but the Premier's temper was higher than a skyscraper by the time his toes hit the sand—described time and time again by everyone who encountered him as fuming. The source of his frustration was the comedic ministerial social media sensation, his own ministers Leahy and Simpson.

It is rare they get day release from the ivory tower, but the local government sector got to see firsthand why these modern-day maidens are locked away in a high tower. Our bumbling heroines were caught in choppy coastal conditions, having to face the music with the Indigenous leaders network. They suffered a case of temporary amnesia and announced an Indigenous voice—a direct line to cabinet. This was the cause of the fury of the member for Broadwater, who had to leave his home in Brisbane and scream down the M1 to let everyone know in no uncertain terms that he was the clean-up squad.

Speaking in slogans and forked tongue has become an art form for the LNP, but the local government leaders saw straight through it. We hear much of their mantra of equal partners in local government, but it is clear that some healthy relationships training is sorely needed because relationships are not equal when there is an all-or-nothing approach on critical matters and when local governments are force-fed a poison apple under this hapless, coercive government. Thankfully, democratic processes endured. That is important when fairy tales start to become nightmares and slogans have no substance.

Congratulations to the institution of the LGAQ that put on a sensational 129th conference, but particularly to their elected leaders who did not crumble to the bad, all-or-nothing LNP deals and defeated the villains with unanimous votes despite the numerous phone calls placed. Collectivism held out and democracy endured.

We know this Premier has a track record of blowing up at mayors and hanging up on his minister. What is next? What a year of delivery. One thing is for sure: this is a cabinet of actors scripted with slogans, bereft of ideas, charter letters of thought bubbles, wanting to move onto the next take with every single misstep. When they have to land something, they either make a meal of it or they have to force it down people's throats.

We are still waiting for the legislative process. The honourably admonished minister is surely a safe and trustworthy set of hands for that job. I cannot wait for next year's LGAQ conference in Cairns, where I predict it will be the next scene where we will have the LNP gagging the crocodiles themselves.