

Question on Notice

No. 924

Asked on 23 August 2023

MR J LANGBROEK ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TREATY, MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTNERSHIPS, MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise what progress has been made on the Brisbane Indigenous Cultural Centre first promised by Peter Beattie in 1999?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Surfers Paradise for the question.

The Beattie Government allocated \$5 million towards early planning for a proposed Musgrave Park Cultural Centre, dedicated to the local Traditional Owners of Brisbane.

Disappointingly, instead of progressing this commitment with local Traditional Owner groups, in 2012 the Newman Government, in which the Member was a Minister, cut the allocated funding and the proposed Musgrave Park Cultural Centre did not progress.

In 2018, the Palaszczuk Government began investigating an iconic Centre to celebrate and showcase Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples arts and cultures from across Queensland, to truthfully explain the history of our past and present.

In 2020, an Options Assessment, in the form of a Preliminary Business Case, was completed for a First Nations Cultural Centre in Brisbane, however, the decision to progress to the next stage of the project, a Detailed Business Case for a First Nations Cultural Centre in Brisbane, was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the new SEQ City Deal, the Palaszczuk Government jointly announced included a \$3 million commitment towards the development of a Detailed Business Case for a First Nations Cultural Centre in Brisbane.

Acknowledging the significant opportunity to recognise the contributions of First Nations people in Far North Queensland and the Torres Strait, the Queensland Government announced in May 2023 that a Detailed Business Case for a First Nations Cultural Centre in Cairns will also be developed.

In August 2023, the Queensland Government appointed the First Nations Project Lead who is responsible for leading the delivery of the First Nations Cultural Centres detailed business cases.

It is anticipated that the Brisbane and Cairns First Nations Cultural Centres will be places to share the history, stories and truth telling of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and act as hubs that connect with First Nations communities across the State, including the network of Indigenous Art Centres and other significant sites and locations throughout Queensland.