



Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Parliament of Queensland

Media Statement

Friday, 31 March 2017

ROMA YOUTH PARLIAMENT PARTICIPANTS CONGRATULATED

Students from six schools in Roma and the Maranoa region participated in the Roma Youth Parliament which was held at the Roma Explorers Inn yesterday. The Speaker of the Queensland Parliament, Hon Peter Wellington MP, officially opened proceedings of the youth parliament and then chaired its first and closing sessions.

Mr Wellington congratulated all students and schools involved in the Roma Youth Parliament, especially due to the severe weather conditions which impacted upon the Roma region on the day of the event.

“On behalf of the Queensland Parliament, I thank all youth members for their hard work in preparing for this event and for having their say on the issues that matter to them. It has been a great privilege to preside over and observe the Roma Youth Parliament and I hope that the students participating today will be inspired by this Youth Parliament and take on a role in Queensland’s democratic process,” Mr Wellington said.

The Roma Youth Parliament was held at the Roma Explorers Inn with students from the following schools participating as Youth Members: Chinchilla Christian College; Injune State School; Roma State College; St Joseph’s School, Chinchilla; St John’s School, Roma; and St Mary’s School, Charleville. In addition, students, teachers and parents attended to observe the event.

Due to the local flooding caused by the remnants of Tropical Cyclone Debbie, three schools were unable to travel to Roma for the Youth Parliament, however, Mr Wellington acknowledged their efforts.

“Unfortunately, the students and teachers from Mitchell State School, Tara Shire State College and Wallumbilla State School who all put in a lot of preparation for the Roma Youth Parliament were unable to attend due to the weather. The Youth Members in attendance voted that the speeches that those students prepared be incorporated in the Hansard record of this event,” Mr Wellington said.

Mr Wellington said that the Youth Parliamentarians debated two motions, the first on the introduction of healthy eating measures in schools and the second on education and employment opportunities for students. Students then had the opportunity to speak on matters of importance to them and their community.

“The Youth Members did a great job, speaking from the heart and raising many important issues that face young people from across the region,” Mr Wellington said.

“The Member for Warrego, Ms Ann Leahy MP, helped chair today’s debate, and we were both impressed by the standard of the speeches and the passion shown,” he said.

All schools involved will be provided with a copy of the Hansard of this youth parliament. The Queensland Parliament organises and facilitates youth parliament events across Queensland each year.

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