



# Media Release

The Honourable Curtis Pitt  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland  
Member for Mulgrave

Wednesday, 24 October 2018

## Junior Indigenous Youth Parliament

Students from 20 schools in the Cairns, Cape York, Torres Strait and surrounding regions will participate in the State's first Junior Indigenous Youth Parliament, which will be held tomorrow at the Cairns Convention Centre.

Speaker of the Queensland Parliament, the Honourable Curtis Pitt MP, will officially open proceedings of the Youth Parliament tomorrow morning and will chair its first and closing sessions.

Mr Pitt congratulated all of the students and schools that have registered for the Junior Indigenous Youth Parliament, saying that the event will provide a valuable experience to better understand how Queensland's democratic processes work.

"I thank the youth members from across the region for their hard work in preparing for this event and for having their say on the issues that matter to them.

"My thanks also go to the many teachers and parents who will attend and observe the event, and for taking such a strong interest in their students' education.

"One of the best parts of my job is to work with and meet school students from across Queensland and it's always a great privilege to preside over and observe Youth Parliaments.

"I am very pleased that students from schools in the Torres Strait Islands have worked in advance to participate via pre-recorded videos.

"I hope that all participating students will be inspired to take on an even greater role in Queensland's democratic process."

"It's expected that 89 students will participate at tomorrow's event as 'Youth Members' while other students will assist as 'officers of the Parliament'.

Mr Pitt said that the Youth Parliamentarians will debate two motions: the first recognising the contribution of a variety of eminent Indigenous Australians, and the second on good health measures.

Mr Shane Knuth the Member for Hill, the Minister for Fire and Emergency Services and Member for Barron River the Honourable Craig Crawford and the Member for Cairns Mr Michael Healy, will be assisting to chair tomorrow's debate," he said.

The participating schools are:

- Balaclava State School
- Bentley Park College
- Cairns Adventist College
- Cairns West State School
- Cooktown State School

- Edge Hill State School
- Endeavour Christian College
- Gordonvale State School
- Isabella State School
- Julatten State School
- Malanda State School
- Mount Garnet State School
- Peace Lutheran College
- Redlynch State College
- St Andrews Catholic College Redlynch
- St Gerald Majella School
- St Francis Xavier's School
- Thursday Island Primary Campus
- Whitfield State School
- Woree State Primary School

The Queensland Parliament organises and facilitates youth parliament events across Queensland each year.

**ENDS**

**Media contact:** Zac Dadic, Team Leader - Communications  
Queensland Parliament  
mobile: 0418 750 646