



## LGBTI Roundtable Communiqué

The third Queensland LGBTI Roundtable was held on 12 December 2018.

The role of the Roundtable is to enable the Queensland Government to ensure its policies, programs, services and strategies are inclusive of and responsive to the needs of LGBTI communities, individuals and their families.

The Roundtable informs Government engagement with LGBTI communities, and provides a mechanism for communities to highlight issues, challenges and opportunities with the Queensland Government.

Nine representatives of Queensland's diverse LGBTI communities – Peter Black, Elise Stephenson, Dr Lisa van Leent, Chris Pickard, Alex David, Rob Nielson, Dallas Pitt and Vicki Ogilvie – were joined by six senior government officials from the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors; Department of Health; Department of Justice and Attorney-General; Department of Education; Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women; the Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland and the Queensland Public Sector LGBTIQ+ Steering Committee. A representative from the office of the Honorable Coralee O'Rourke MP, Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors also attended.

Community members are drawn from the Gay and Lesbian, intersex and transgender communities and academia. They bring rich expertise in the fields of education, youth services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services, rural and remote services and the needs of the LGBTI community across Queensland.

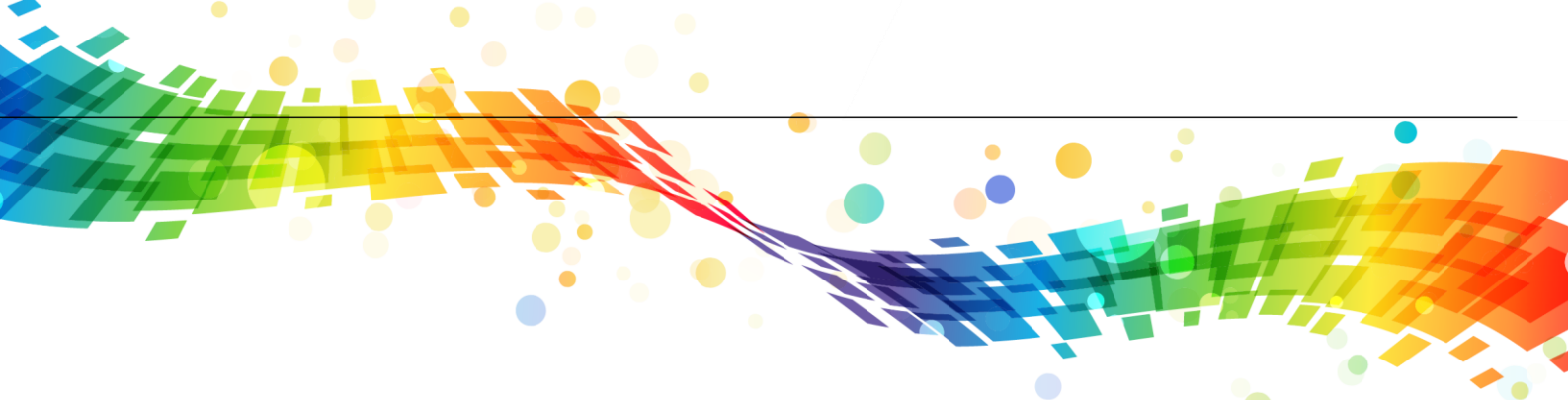
The Work Plan was further refined to ensure the maximum impact of the Roundtable. The Work Plan aligns with the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors *Thriving Communities* agenda and the Queensland Government's *Advancing Queensland Priorities* of:

- Creating Jobs in a Strong Economy
- Keeping Queenslanders Healthy
- Keeping Communities Safe
- Giving All Our Children a Great Start
- Being a Responsive Government

Members have self-selected the areas they are best suited and interested in progressing. Each working party is being led by a senior government officer and will be supported by the secretariat to meet between each of the Roundtable meetings to focus on specific topics. It was suggested that initially two short meetings would be advantageous to operationalise the work groups, checking all actions are relevant and contemporary as work to support LGBTI communities is being undertaken by many jurisdictions.

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An officer from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General provided a further update on the review of the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003* and gave examples of how different states and territories are managing the same issues. It was noted that the United Kingdom undertook a survey about gender recognition that received over 53,000 results.

A media release from the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, The Honourable Di Farmer announcing the launch of a new campaign targeting the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer LGBTIQ community was tabled at the meeting. The Roundtable members will be kept informed throughout the campaign as we work to raise awareness of domestic and family violence in the LGBTIQ community and break down barriers to seeking support.

Elise Stephenson reported to the Roundtable on the two and half months she spent researching LGBTI experiences in America and Asian Pacific region. Elise was instrumental in organising a human rights conference in Hong Kong. 70 non-government organisations engaged to discuss LGBTI issues. Speakers included the first openly gay royalty and Pacific Islander delegates concerned over climate change driven migration and efforts to properly address LGBTI indigenous and other minorities. To find further information visit <http://www.humandignity.org>. UNHCR and universities are collaborating on a working paper anticipated to be available in 2019, addressing religious discrimination of people who identify as LGBTI. Elise also mentioned the Miles of Love working group targeting the hospitality and tourism sectors.

The next Roundtable meeting will be early April 2019.

## **December 2018**

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