

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR EDUCATION**



MEDIA RELEASE

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CQ Men's Sheds get funds for secure future

Central Queensland's Men's Sheds will benefit by a Palaszczuk Labor Government promise to provide almost half a million dollars to help give the Queensland Men's Shed Association a secure future.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said she has worked closely with Emu Park Men's Shed (where she is patron), Yeppoon and North Rockhampton men's sheds, and said the \$450,000 funding injection over the next three years will help put the association on a path to ongoing sustainability and supporting thousands of men across Queensland.

Ms Lauga said the Queensland Men's Shed Association had survived for a decade through donations and grants such as those from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.

"We know for a fact that Men's Sheds make a tangible difference to the men who take part in their activities," she said.

"There is research that says Men's Sheds give participants who may feel lonely or socially isolated opportunities to meet people, join group activities and learn new skills.

"2020 has been a tough year for everyone.

"As we deliver Queensland's plan for economic recovery, we need to make sure that nobody is left behind and that all Queenslanders get the support they need.

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“We’re backing Men’s Sheds in Queensland to continue the great work they do right across the state,” Ms Lauga said.

Graham Luck, president of Emu Park Men's Shed, thanked Ms Lauga for her efforts for men’s sheds, and said: “We’ve been working towards an executive officer for some time now and this funding will help us further the work we are doing throughout the region.

“This funding will give zone representatives like myself the option to get out to all the sheds in our zone at least once a year.

“It will also allow us to hold cluster meetings where all of the sheds in the area can come together and share what’s been happening.”

He said the announcement is most welcome.

“Not only will this funding help the Emu Park Shed, it will impact all sheds across Queensland to a mutual benefit,” said Mr Luck.

PHOTO: Flashback! Brittany Lauga with Emu Park Men’s Shed members and supporters at the official opening of their Shed in 2015.

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