

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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



MEDIA RELEASE

19 May 2020

Minister praises Lauga's Covid19 efforts

Health Minister Dr Steven Miles has praised the Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga for her work in fighting Coronavirus in Central Queensland, particularly in the recent case involving the North Rockhampton Nursing Centre.

Speaking in Parliament Minister Miles said it was “great to be on the ground” with Ms Lauga, the Chief Health Officer Dr Jeanette Young, and the Member for Rockhampton Barry O'Rourke to ground truth the response from the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service, and the staff of the nursing centre, were responding to keep those residents safe.

“I know that she (Ms Lauga) has been very concerned for the wellbeing of constituents of hers who live at that nursing centre.

“She is well known to the nursing centre... she is incredibly proud of the (\$8.5M) refurbishment that she secured for that centre.”

Dr Miles praised the CQ Health Emergency Operations Centre where the nursing centre operation was being led and managed from.

“I was able to hear and see what a fantastic effort had been put in by all of the staff on the ground from 8 pm on Thursday (14 May).”

He said a local disaster management plan was put into place, and a rapid response team was deployed, including a senior public health physician and 20 additional nursing staff from Brisbane.

“They have increased their hygiene and cleaning routines at the facility and increased their nursing ratio to mirror those of a clinical environment.

“The CQHHS has opened a second fever clinic so that we can do large-scale testing of the Rockhampton community which, of course, we want to do.

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“I have asked the director-general to commission an independent health service investigation into the incident in addition to the internal investigation.

“This is a chance for us to remind all Queensland Health, and indeed all health staff, that if they are sick they should stay home and get tested.”

Ms Lauga broadcasts daily the latest and accurate information on Covid19 in Central Queensland via her Facebook on <https://www.facebook.com/brittanyforkeppel>

ENDS...

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