

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

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



MEDIA RELEASE

6 October 2020

CQ resources to lead Qld recovery

Central Queensland's resources and workers will be key drivers of the Queensland economy for decades to come, said the Member for Keppel and Minister for Education Brittany Lauga.

Ms Lauga said the Palaszczuk Government is marrying with the Queensland Resources Council to form a comprehensive Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan which will be integral to our economic recovery.

"The Plan will help remove barriers to growth and be grounded in actions to help regional communities like Central Queensland recover from Covid-19.

"There is now a clear path forward in the sector, valuing and caring for the tens of thousands of Central Queenslanders who work in the resources sector, and the businesses large and small that employ them.

"Part of that positive push follows the Treasurer Cameron Dick's announcement of the inaugural Advisory Committee for the \$100 million Resources Community Infrastructure Fund (RCIF)."

Ms Lauga said vibrant regional economies are critical to rebuilding strength of the Queensland economy, and our state's resources and mining industries are central to the vibrancy of regional economies.

"Our state's resources and mining industries have led the economic fightback against Covid-19, and they will help us rebuild the Queensland economy from then impacts of the pandemic in the years to come."

ELECTORATE OFFICE

Shop 6, Yeppoon Central Shopping Centre
42 Park Street, Yeppoon QLD 4703

POSTAL ADDRESS

Post Office Box 1474
Yeppoon QLD 4703

CONTACT

Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509
Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au

WEBSITE

www.brittanylauga.com.au

She said jobs at the newly-approved \$1 billion Pembroke Olive Downs Mine will quickly flow to Central Queensland following her successful push to have the mine approved by the Federal Government.

“I’ve been lobbying the Federal Government since May 2017 for this mine to be approved.

“We could have started these 1500 jobs 12 months ago if the Federal Government had taken action.”

“The Palaszczuk Government’s huge investment in the resources sector is backed by some of the world’s toughest mine safety laws, including the new industrial manslaughter legislation which makes mining companies liable in the case of workers’ injury or death.”

She said Queensland already has some of the toughest safety and health rules in the world, and the Resources Safety and Health Queensland is a dedicated advocate for the thousands of resource workers in CQ.

This consists of nearly 90 new safety inspectors, a world-leading safety and mines testing and research station, and the coal mines Workers Health Scheme.

Ms Lauga said "CQ miners and resource workers are not just drivers of our economy but they are mums and dads, brothers and sisters who need to know they will be safe at work every day.

“We’ve also made wage theft a criminal offence, and overhauled labour hire licensing laws.

“And miners now have access to free screening for black lung disease – the first state government to do so.”

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

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



MEDIA RELEASE

Central Queensland mine and quarry workers will have free lung health checks thanks to a prime mover health truck which will be on the road by the end of the year.

Ms Lauga said the mobile screening service will be taking important testing to quarry workers and miners where they live and work to support the early detection and prevention of mine dust lung diseases like black lung and silicosis.

Queensland Resources Council Chief Executive Ian Macfarlane has welcomed the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to the Resources Industry Development Plan.

"The QRC wants to work in close partnership with the next Government to grow our industry to create more jobs and more opportunities for all Queenslanders," Mr Macfarlane said.

"As the peak state body for coal, metal and gas explorers, producers and suppliers, the QRC is looking for the Plan to provide more certainty to the resources sector and the 372,000 workers we employ and 14,400 businesses we support."

Mining accounted for \$47.9 billion of economic output in Queensland in 2018-19, with the majority of this activity attributed to coal mining.

Ms Lauga said coal mining also supports activity in other sectors of the economy through the flow on demand for inputs and other goods and services, particularly in regions in which coal mining is based.

"Vibrant regional economies are critical to rebuilding strength of the Queensland economy, and our state's resources and mining industries are central to the vibrancy of regional economies.

ELECTORATE OFFICE

Shop 6, Yeppoon Central Shopping Centre
42 Park Street, Yeppoon QLD 4703

POSTAL ADDRESS

Post Office Box 1474
Yeppoon QLD 4703

CONTACT

Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509
Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au

WEBSITE

www.brittanylauga.com.au

“Our state’s resources and mining industries have led the economic fightback against Covid-19, and they will help us rebuild the Queensland economy from then impacts of the pandemic in the years to come.”

ENDS

Contact John 0400787037