



Wellington's Way 2015 Budget Edition



Keeping the electorate of Nicklin
up to date on local and State issues.

Budget no-nonsense but ticks all boxes

Treasurer Curtis Pitt is to be congratulated for bringing down a no-nonsense Budget that ticks all the boxes including paying down debt without selling the State's income earning assets. This Budget has been widely applauded by industry and service providers across the State including from the CEO of the Mining Council Michael Roche which speaks volumes for its acceptability.

The Budget is fiscally responsible and scrupulously fair by providing increased funding for those areas of greatest need, health, education jobs and by ensuring our important tourism industry is given a boost and our struggling agriculture sector is not forgotten.

In our electorate I am pleased that at last the disabled will have access to Nambour Rail with a \$10million upgrade, that there will be much needed ambulance stations at Yandina and Kenilworth, we will receive funding for 11 new teachers, money to expand our Nambour Special School, there is funding for a new learning building for Peregrine Springs State School, funds for Burnside High's Alfresco Café, money for North Arm State School's Special Education program and important transition funding for Nambour Hospital. I am also delighted that the Budget will provide for more nurses and that the nurse to patient ratio will be legislated.

Listed are quotes from industry and academia on the Budget:

Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry spokesman Nick Behrens says: "We think that it is a budget that invests in Queensland's economic future. It confirms Queensland's economic future is a "brightening one". He also praised the \$180 million Advance Queensland plan as a futuristic idea.

Mark Paddenburg, chief executive at the Innovation Centre at the University of the Sunshine Coast said funding for Knowledge Transfer Partnerships to help start-ups employ graduates or PHD students to meet innovative challenges was going to be useful. The best and Brightest Program would also help keep talented people in Queensland.

Agforce chief executive Charles Burke says it was a "sound first budget" for the Palaszczuk government that largely recognised the challenges faced by the agricultural centre, in particular in drought affected areas.

Queensland Tourism Industry Council chief executive Daniel Gschwind says it is a fiscally responsible budget. With \$100 million injection into the Tourism Events Queensland budget he said, "We're certainly encouraged by that, "it will be spent in international and domestic markets. We are also encouraged by some of the infrastructure spending. It will support tourism and draw people into the regions."

Lindsay Wegener from child protection group Peakcare Queensland says they are "very pleased" the government has built on the Newman government's initiatives that came out of the Carmody commission of inquiry.

Government Association of Queensland President Margaret de Wit said, "All in all, this budget has shown a welcome commitment to local projects such as road building and community infrastructure."

Even shadow health minister and Member for Caloundra Mark McArdle said the Labor government's budgeting for the hospital was "the same" as what the LNP would have allocated if still in power.

Sunshine Coast University Hospital Action Group leader Maureen Mileham said she was glad some money had been allocated to the hospital.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Wellington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'P' and 'W'.

Peter