

Palm Island Voice



FREE!

Issue 412

28 October 2024



PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.



LGAQ supports call for more housing

Representatives from 77 councils met in Brisbane last week for the Local Government Association of Queensland's (LGAQ's) annual conference.

The meeting included an Indigenous Leaders' Forum (ILF) for the 17 First Nations Councils, who called on the State Government to take action on unacceptable levels of overcrowding in many of the State's First Nations communities.

Councils voted to call on the Federal Government to facilitate a bilateral funding agreement with the Queensland State Government to substantially increase investment in First Nations housing.

The LGAQ said Queensland's 17 First Nations councils – and the communities they represent – were a crucial part of the cultural, social, and economic fabric of our state.

They called on the major and minor political parties to partner with Indigenous Leaders

and sign up to empower First Nations Peoples by:

1. Reducing chronic overcrowding to boost housing supply
2. Empowering communities with guaranteed operational funding increases
3. Permanently extending the Indigenous Councils' Critical Infrastructure Program
4. Better engagement with First Nations communities to improve local health services and focused action on Closing the Gap outcomes through a new First Nations Council's Accord partnership.

The ILF and the LGAQ meetings were attended by Mayor Alf Lacey, Deputy Mayor Mersane Oui and Councillor Ebansese Oui.



Mayor Alf Lacey addresses the LGAQ conference. Pics supplied.

Counting continues for the State election

The official first preference count is ongoing in all 93 electorates after the State Elections in Queensland, with the Returning Officer and election officials counting more than 400 ballot papers from the Palm Island booth for the seat of Townsville on Saturday.

The preliminary count for the seat overall indicated it was lost by incumbent ALP member Scott Stewart to Liberal National Party (LNP) candidate Adam Baillie.

Official results were yet to be declared at the time of printing.

The Palm Island booth results indicated almost half of the nearly

400 formal votes (203) went to Mr Stewart.

The lowest number of votes from Palm Island pollsters was seven for One Nation candidate Alan Butt.

Mr Baillie said he was a small business owner and proud father of three school-aged children.

He said youth crime and the lack

of consequences faced by young offenders was what motivated him to nominate as a candidate.

Declarations of results will only be made once the outcome is certain and all votes are counted, including the preliminary and official count and distribution of preferences (where required).

The results of all counts will be published progressively on the ECQ's results website at <https://results.elections.qld.gov.au/>



POSITION VACANT EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is seeking a proactive and organised Executive Assistant to provide high level support to the Mayor and Councillors.

This role is critical in managing diaries, coordinating meetings, and handling corporate communications, ensuring the smooth operation of Council activities.

If you have excellent communication skills, experience in administration, and a passion for supporting leaders, we encourage you to apply!

Applications will be accepted until 4pm on Friday 8 November 2024.

For more information contact Deputy Chief Executive Officer Eva Haines via email at eva.haines@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au

THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*
(Issue 413*) will be Thursday 7 November
for publication on Monday 11 November



The *Palm Island Voice* is published *weekly if we have paid advertising, or otherwise fortnightly by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council. For advertising rates and/or more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at howeschowes@gmail.com Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor, Christine Howes. You can also follow us on Facebook! We have 2,900 'likes' and more than 3,000 followers! The *Palm Island Voice* is free and online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

Operating Hours for Palm Island Council are Monday–Friday 8am – 5pm

If you have any questions please contact Reception on 4770 1177 or 4770 0200

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 5,400 'followers' on Facebook!!!