



# Dr Christian ROWAN MP

## Member for Moggill

*Shadow Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and  
Shadow Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef*



17 November 2017

Mr Jonathan Fisher  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Trust of Australia (Queensland)  
19/25 Mary Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: [heritage@nationaltrustqld.org](mailto:heritage@nationaltrustqld.org)<<mailto:heritage@nationaltrustqld.org>>

Dear Mr Fisher

Many thanks for your email regarding Environmental Built and Cultural Heritage.

I have taken the time to read the Trust's list of priorities and while some of the requested support involves some areas outside of State Government control with respect to heritage protection, I am happy to give in-principle support to your priorities.

Please assure your 12,000 members and volunteers that the LNP is committed to maintain the current governance structures in Queensland. The LNP will maintain current budget funding, but you would appreciate that from Opposition, it is difficult to make promises on funding beyond the forward estimates.

However, and as mentioned, I am happy to provide in-principle support for your priorities.

We certainly agree that cultural tourism is vital to Queensland and is important in generating funds for protecting and maintaining environmental built and cultural heritage sites, and generating and supporting jobs.

We are fully supportive of Heritage Trails in promoting tourism and generating sustainable jobs, especially in regional areas.

The 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook's charting of the Queensland Coast is an important event in 2020 and an LNP Government would be pleased to work with the National Trust and community groups to commemorate his remarkable journey.

To your questions (4 & 5) on grant funding for owners of heritage places, as you would appreciate this is policy that would take some to develop. However the LNP would be pleased to discuss further when in Government.

2.

In respect to requests (6 & 7) regarding additional Heritage Expertise in the regions, I support this in-principle and would be happy to discuss with a view to progress in Government. This also applies to questions 8 & 9.

In respect to 10, the LNP is committed to protecting the Great Barrier Reef and working closely with landholders, farmers and local councils to improve farming practices through Best Management Practice (BMP) programs to reduce chemical/nutrient/sediment run-off into Reef catchments.

The LNP is committed to protecting the Great Barrier Reef. In Government, led by science, we took strong action, more than any previous government, to address concerns about reef decline. We got the balance right and had strict controls on port developments, as recommended by UNESCO, and introduced tougher reef protection penalties.

In Government, the LNP committed to investing \$35 million a year to improve water quality and help farmers adopt reef-friendly practices through BMP (best management practices) programs to cut fertiliser/chemical/sediment run-off from farms. Independent reports showed water quality on the Great Barrier Reef improved under the LNP (see background below).

We're committed to working with the Federal Coalition Government and its Reef 2050 Plan which guides protection and management of the reef for the next 35 years. An LNP Government will maintain all current allocated State funding for reef protection. We'll build an Alliance to protect the Reef for future generations, and we'll meet all our obligations under the Reef 2050 (Protection) Plan.

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will build an Alliance to protect the Great Barrier Reef and secure its future. We will maintain and fully-fund existing programs. Protecting the reef is too important to leave to one organisation or local group. The LNP's 'Great Barrier Reef Alliance' will work closely with the Federal Government, the Independent Expert Panel and Reef 2050 Advisory Committee and other key stakeholders to deliver real, independently measurable outcomes.

We'll again partner with the Federal Government to continue the important task of improving reef water quality. As shown by the Federal Report Card (2014) pesticide load is down 28%, sediment load down 11% and nitrogen down 10% on 2009 baseline levels. The Report Card also showed a 16% reduction in dissolved inorganic nitrogen, the key pollutant linked to Crown of Thorns starfish outbreaks.

The LNP is fully committed to working with all stakeholders to better protect vulnerable and endangered GBR species, including dugongs and turtles and we will work with indigenous groups to better manage and protect these iconic species.

In respect to 11, an LNP Government would look at proposals from the National Trust and communities along the Barrier Reef coastline.

3.

In regards to 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16, as mentioned I agree with all in-principle, and would work with the National Trust to achieve these goals.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact the LNP about these important issues.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Rowan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Dr Christian A.C. Rowan MP**

State Member for Moggill

Shadow Minister for the Environment & Heritage Protection

Shadow Minister for National Parks & the Great Barrier Reef