



QUEENSLAND ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**Boosting Tourism, Research,
Science and Technology**

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National Government will deliver an Australian first in Queensland – a world class Academy of Sciences at South Bank.

The Problem

Queensland is Australia's most decentralised state, yet Brisbane remains its primary tourist destination. Since the creation of South Bank Corporation in 1989, following Expo 1988, tourist facilities and local amenities have been continually expanding on the South Bank peninsula.

Tourism remains a key driver of the Queensland economy. For too long, governments have relied on one or two sectors, which works in the good times, but not when those sectors experience a downturn.

The latest Tourism Research Australia data shows that international visitor nights in Queensland have gone backwards in the last year under Labor – that is, more international visitors are coming here but they aren't staying as long as previously. Tourists need more to do and see.

Queensland is falling behind other states because the do-nothing Palaszczuk Labor Government doesn't have a plan to ensure we capitalise on the low Australian dollar.

Our Record

Queensland has a long and proud track record of investing in science and science-based industries to drive innovation and establish centres of excellence to help sustain life, the environment and the planet.

In science and technology, the LNP's priority has always been better government – not more government – with government as the enabler, unlocking our potential as an innovation state.

The former LNP Government launched the Science and Innovation Action Plan, our plan to turn great ideas into great opportunities through creativity, productivity and knowledge. We also heavily invested in medical research, tropical health, the environment and early detection of dementia at the Clem Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research.

We focused on rebuilding Queensland's capability through industry partnerships and scientific leadership.

Our Real Plan

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will deliver an Australian-first Academy of Sciences built at South Bank – the Queensland Academy of Sciences.

The Academy could house a world-class natural history museum to complement the existing Queensland Museum, an aquarium in conjunction with living science displays, a new stand-alone Science Centre, as well as cutting-edge research and educational facilities.

The Academy of Sciences will partner with our universities to ensure it is a world-class educational institution and research facility. It would be used for professional development, school trips, functions and many more activities depending on design. Special resources would be made available for those involved in distance education as well.

Within the LNP's first 100 days in office, we will release a request for proposals to kick off a local and international design competition. The design competition will ensure the "living building" captures the history of Australia, Brisbane and South Bank but also the natural elements of Queensland life and the capacity to deliver important research programs, sustainability and conservation work.

A business case for the project will also be delivered after the design competition. This allows for further development of the displays and central features to be established and incorporated from the design phase into the business case.

The Academy will partner with our existing science and historical museums to inspire the next generation of children to be active contributors to science. The Queensland Academy of Sciences will be a landmark institution that Queenslanders can proudly call their own for generations to come.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Where at South Bank?

The current site occupied by Parmalat has been nominated as the preferred location.

We will sit down and work with Parmalat to ensure a new home can be found in a suitable industrial precinct which makes sense for the people of Brisbane and Parmalat. The State has a range of different industrial precincts and opportunities open that could support the re-location of Parmalat.

The site is ideally serviced by the Kurilpa Bridge, Go Between Bridge, the Cultural Centre and South Brisbane Stations and Merivale Street.

How many people will be attracted to the Academy?

South Bank has more than 998,000 (2016 South Bank Corporation Annual Report) visitors annually. With the BCEC, QPAC, QAGOMA, Queensland Museum, State Library of Queensland, Conservatorium of Music, Maritime Museum, the Parklands and the Wheel of Brisbane, more facilities are needed to maintain our tourism reputation and new world city vision.

Similar Academies around the world have attracted hundreds of thousands of tourists and Queensland would be the only state in Australia to have such a facility.

Our plan puts Queensland and Queensland Science First.

What will the Academy cost?

The LNP has provisioned \$20 million for the RFP, design and business case stages of the project. Once the RFP, design and business case phases are complete, the LNP will look to partner with the private sector to build and operate the facility in partnership with Queensland Universities.

How will this impact the Queensland Museum, State Library of Queensland, Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art?

This would complement the facilities along the South Brisbane foreshore, which already are seeing record patronage levels. The Queensland Academy of Sciences will link with the Museum, State Library and QAGOMA to provide a world-class science and education precinct.

The South Bank campus of the Queensland Museum welcomed 1.84 million visitors in 2015-16, a 30% increase on the previous year. According to the annual report, this trend flowed through to the Sciencentre which had the highest visitation ever (2015-16 Board of the Queensland Museum Annual Report).



Authorised by L.Folo. 66-68 Bowen Street, Spring Hill QLD 4000.



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Build a Better
Queensland**



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betterqueensland.org.au