

MEDIA RELEASE – CRISAFULLI GOVERNMENT INVESTS IN OUTBACK TOURISM

November 14, 2025

An announcement that the Crisafulli Government will invest \$2.4 million to save education support for Queensland children to travel to some of the world's best classrooms – including Queensland's Outback – has been welcomed by the Member for Gregory and Assistant Minister for Primary Industry Development, Water and Western Queensland Sean Dillon.

Mr Dillon said the Outback Queensland Education Experience Program offered students a subsidy for the opportunity to explore the rich history and heritage of Outback Queensland, while learning from and contributing to its communities by experiencing life on the land.

He said the program was set to end under the former Labor Government during their decade of decline, who had not funded it beyond 2024.

Outback Queensland includes the local government areas of Barcaldine, Blackall-Tambo, Longreach, Winton, Boulia and Diamantina in the Gregory electorate.

"This program helps school children explore the rich history, culture and landscapes of the Queensland Outback through a diverse range of tourism offerings," Mr Dillon said.

"Students can see where Tambo Teddies are made; discover steam-powered history at the Blackall Woolscour; visit the Tree of Knowledge and the Australian Workers Heritage Centre at Barcaldine; learn about Outback pioneers at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and step into aviation history at the Qantas Founders Museum at Longreach; witness the only known dinosaur stampede at Lark Quarry Conservation Park and view the largest collection of Australian dinosaur fossils at Winton's Australian Age of Dinosaurs; experience a movie night under the stars at the Royal Theatre in Winton; and explore the first museum in the world dedicated to a song at the Waltzing Matilda Centre."

He also welcomed the announcement that the Tourism Business Capability Subsidy will open in February 2026 for tourism businesses to upskill and grow their offerings through training and accreditation.

"These announcements are a part of the Crisafulli Government's 20-year plan Destination 2045, guiding Queensland's tourism industry into a new era of growth," Mr Dillon said.

Emerald Electorate Office

- Shop 1, 93 Clermont Street, Emerald QLD 4720
- **(**07) 4913 1000
- Gregory@parliament.qld.gov.au

Longreach Electorate Office

- Shop 2, Studio Exclusive Arcade, 120A Eagle street, Longreach QLD 4730
- (07) 4521 5700
- Gregory@parliament.qld.gov.au



"This investment will make a tangible difference for our region, backing local businesses and taking tourism to the next level."

ENDS

Media Contact: Kerry-Lee Ferguson

gregory@parliament.qld.gov.au

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