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Queensland's timber industry ready to work with incoming Government on growth agenda

Queensland's forest and timber industry is committed and ready to work with the re-elected Palaszczuk Government following the 2020 State Election.

"Our industry is committed to working with the returned State government on a growth agenda to increase the 25,000 jobs Queensland's forest and timber industry already supports," Timber Queensland Chief Executive Officer, Mick Stephens said.

Mr Stephens said the Government's commitment to no new or increased taxes is supported as industry navigates the COVID impacted economy. This was a [priority](#) for Timber Queensland along with a number of other peak industry bodies.

"Given timber and wood products are a major input into the state's building and construction sector, the \$1 billion plan to build new State school classroom and administration buildings and the \$600 million Works for Queensland scheme supporting regional council's maintenance and minor infrastructure projects also stimulates our industry," he said.

During the election campaign Timber Queensland identified [five areas for Government focus](#): resource security, regional industry development, building and construction sector procurement, environmental recognition and innovation and research.

"By focusing on these areas, the Queensland Government could create an investment environment for industry to generate an extra \$300 million in output and create over 2000 additional jobs."

Mr Stephens said the industry can also play an important role in the newly announced Timber Industry Ministerial Advisory Committee, a key industry ask during the election

"This Committee can provide a vehicle for more regular and direct industry consultation with Government to implement concrete action, including regular liaison with relevant Ministers and Departments to facilitate actions from a whole of government perspective," he said.

"In addition, the Government needs to get moving on the establishment of the Native Timber Advisory Panel, given a lack of progress since its announcement by the Premier in November 2019. The work of this panel will be critical to the future of the native hardwood industry in South-East Queensland in particular."

"We are committed to working with all returning and new members of the Queensland Parliament to promote this renewable and climate friendly industry, which provides much-needed timber for the state's building and construction needs."

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