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## What is Wrong in Public Education and Local, State, and Federal Government Policy?

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Neville Buch &lt;nbuch61@gmail.com&gt;

6 April 2021 at 17:51

To: reception@opposition.qld.gov.au

Cc: Tim Roberts <timothyroberts@hotmail.com>, Jack Ford <jackford@bigpond.net.au>, bgrough@gmail.com, Norm Love <normanlove@hotmail.com>, Chris Dawson <dawsonchris@outlook.com>, Stretton Electorate Office <STRETTON@parliament.qld.gov.au>, Sunnybank Electorate Office <sunnybank@parliament.qld.gov.au>, secretary@anzhes.com, UQ VC OFFICE <vc@uq.edu.au>, Geoff Ginn <g.ginn@uq.edu.au>, Joanne Scott <JScott@usc.edu.au>, vc@griffith.edu.au, margaret.sheil@qut.edu.au, Queensland State Archives <info@archives.qld.gov.au>, n3.barnes@qut.edu.au

The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP Premier of Queensland  
Via Web Form.  
Cc: Opposition Leader.

Dear Premier,

I write to you on a momentous matter of my economic survival, and of those of hundreds like me in Queensland.

Current federal public-private economic policies are failing, and thus current education funding policy is failing those professional scholars in the humanities and social scientists, in Queensland, who are not being paid or are underpaid for private contract work. The system is not working.

The major of economists know that, they know that the privatisations of the 1980s and 1990s had not delivered, and they still have not delivered two decades later.

Being a Labor Premier, I think you know that too, under your PR pretence of Queensland populism.

The problem for me, and those Queenslanders like me, is that this problem has never been addressed because it has been allowed to fall into the cracks between three levels of government.

Hence, I decided to find a single target. Much of my unpaid or underpaid work has been in the history of the city of Brisbane. In its widest scope of education. If I layout the problem which does not involve you personally, maybe, you will be more sympathetic.

I have written to the Lord Mayor of Brisbane on the issue that the Council has never had a public education area to properly introduce Brisbane residents to the widest scope of the city's history. And it no good saying the Museum of Brisbane delivers, because it does not, when the GLAM perspective of the public history of the city will always be narrowed by its mission. Has there ever been a display of 'schooling' at the Museum of Brisbane, for example?

In this case, I have again hit home on deliberate policies from the universities and archives to fall into line with the reductive attitude of Federal and State Government ministers of education, who erroneously assume that technological innovation is the beginning and end of education, if not from such pronouncements (and there are those who made such statements in the past of the last three decades), but in their practice of funding in education.

Hence, although it does not involve you personally, it does heavily involve state portfolios and funding which reaches the Brisbane City Council.

Too often as an independent professional historian I have teachers turning to me to do the work *pro bono*. Something is cognitively rotting in Brisbane if institutions expect professional work to go unpaid, or underpaid, to fill the shortfall in government services at all three levels.

Kind regards,  
Neville.

Attached below email to Council Officer, and email to institutional CEOs.

Dear Council Officer,

I wish for the attached copy of the email to be passed on to the Lord Mayor. It relates to previous series of correspondence from September 2020, Ref: LM04593-2020.

I am not sure that I will get much sympathy with the Lord Mayor, but I wish to convey this thought: it seems highly unintelligible the Lord Mayor's attitude towards public cultural goods and the inability of the public-private economy to meet the societal need for public education in local history.

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