



## MEDIA RELEASE

28 March 2023 – For Immediate Release

### Brisbane Pride Inc Annual General Meeting 2023

Brisbane Pride Inc held its Annual General Meeting on 21 March 2023.

The Brisbane Pride Inc Annual General Meeting is an opportunity for members to receive important updates on the direction of the organisation, its financial health and to put forward suggestions for consideration.

The outgoing President, Bec Johnson, stated "we had a really good year last year. There was quite a lot of challenges, but overall, I think in terms of the Queens Ball and Fair Day we had significant support from the community. Queens Ball broke all records, with over 700 in attendance and Fair Day, over 5000".

"I thoroughly enjoyed all of 2022 with the community and with the Brisbane Pride Board. It has brought me a great amount of joy, and I leave knowing that some of the people that have been on this Board long term will do a wonderful job and will continue to build their capacity to deliver events that bring our LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy communities together".

Bec Johnson has been President of Brisbane Pride since 2018 and has decided to not continue in 2023.

Reflecting on her time as President, Bec said "I thank LGBTIQ+ Queenslanders and the Brisbane Pride Board for the opportunity to lead Brisbane Pride over the past years.

I was the first President to co-design and implement a Brisbane Pride Inc strategy, with clear direction and input from communities. We safely launched the Brisbane Pride Festival two years in a row throughout the covid pandemic, we implemented the first ever Queensland LGBTIQ+ Mental Health Symposium and we placed First Nations Voices at the forefront of the festival. I acknowledge 2Spirits and the amazing work they have done in partnership with Brisbane Pride. Additionally, we invested in small grants to localised Queensland LGBTIQ+ groups to help build their local capacity.

I further acknowledge the sponsors we worked so closely with, the Queensland Government, Suncorp (AAMI) and more recently Woolworths. It is through this support that Brisbane Pride was able to grow the festival and the Annual Queens Ball.

It has been a pleasure to lead Brisbane Pride and I wish the Board continued success".

### **The financial position of Brisbane Pride is solid.**

The Treasurer, James McCarthy said that "financial measures put in place by the Board since 2016 have seen Brisbane Pride go from strength to strength. These measures have given Pride not only financial security, but the flexibility required to adapt when faced with a challenge, such as the current cost outlook."

The Board faced several challenges throughout 2022, culminating in the significant weather event in the lead up to Brisbane Pride Fair Day. This required some "tough decisions about how we could progress the event and ensure it remained financially successful in 2022".

Brisbane Pride has also been working hard to "to maximise value for our partner organisations and sponsors, we've been working hard to develop these mutually beneficial relationships". This combined with the financial measures has "been a core part of Brisbane Pride's success and we will continue this in 2023" he said.

Reporting on the financial outcomes for the year "it showed revenue of \$394,936, which was an increase of 17.9% on the previous fiscal year and expenses of \$351,312, a 16.9% increase on the previous year. Brisbane Pride was able to achieve a surplus of \$43,624, representing a 26% increase".

Pride delivered \$14,522 in donations to LGBTIQ+ groups in 2022, "Brisbane Pride has now delivered \$100,000 in donations to LGBTIQ+ groups since 2016. This is a remarkable achievement and something for which the Board can be immensely proud".

The AGM decided that memberships prices for Brisbane Pride Inc would be maintained at the 2022 price. The prices for 2023 will be \$20 for general, \$15 for concessional and \$50 for associate membership.

### **Board election in 2023**

Seven of nine positions on the Brisbane Pride Board of Management were open for nominations in 2023.

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
3x General Committee

The outcome of the Board election was:

President – James McCarthy  
Vice President – Daniel Frost-Foster  
Secretary – Dylan Barrett  
Treasurer – Jen Toonen  
General Committee – Gabrielle Martello

General Committee – Harry Katsanevas  
General Committee – Dr. James Allen  
General Committee – Bradley Heilbronn  
General Committee – Naraja Clay

The incoming President, James McCarthy, congratulated the new members of the Board on their election. He also thanked Bec Johnson for "her time as President, leadership, and dedication to the community".

The Brisbane Pride Inc Annual General Meeting is open to financial members and held in March every year. Membership is available through the Brisbane Pride website and entitles the holder to AGM voting rights and free entry to Fair Day.

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