



# Presbyterian Church of Queensland

## State Moderator-Elect

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Ref: COAJun22

Date: 3 June 2022

**To: Commissioners of the Assembly and the broader PCQ community**  
**From: The Commission of PCQ Assembly**  
**Re: Update from the Commission of Assembly**

Greeting in our Saviour's name.

In the 22 months since a Commission of basically new members was elected at the August 2020 Assembly, our denomination has endured a tumultuous time and the events have been a testing time for us all. During this time the agenda of the Commission has been dominated by issues related to Prescare and then the receivership.

Sadly, for a variety of reasons, during this period there were some things which the Commission could not even share with members of the Assembly - let alone the broader PCQ community - and we know this caused angst, grief, and frustration across our denomination. Despite our desire for openness, that was not always possible.

However, now that most of the Receiver's report has been made public (as advised in the email of 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022) we feel, that at last, there can be a degree of openness which many have craved. For those who didn't see that communication and want access to the report, it can be found online at <https://report.pcq.church/> and includes the following documents:

Volume 1: A summary of the Church's legal structure and assets

Volume 2: Legal matters including Breach Notices [REDACTED]

Volume 3: Appendices, including a real property portfolio

Supporting Documents Folder

This report is large and complex; the Receivers have collected an overwhelming amount of data from the records of our congregations and the church office, and their report indicates that the trust structure of the denomination may not be straightforward.

At the suggestion of the PCQ Letters Patent Officers (LPO) — i.e., the Assembly elected officers who function as the 'legal entity' that is the Presbyterian Church of Queensland Letters Patent Entity — a **Q&A evening** will be conducted online by Zoom at 6:00pm on Thursday, 16 June 2022 to address any questions that people have from the Receivers report. Please email or communicate any questions to the Clerk ([clerk@pcq.org.au](mailto:clerk@pcq.org.au) or PO Box 510, Spring Hill 4004) by 4:00pm on 14 June so the questions can be collated. Depending on time, there may be opportunity for questions from the virtual floor as well.

If you would like to participate in this Q&A evening, please advise the Clerk via email ([clerk@pcq.org.au](mailto:clerk@pcq.org.au)) and you will be provided Zoom meeting details closer to the date.

It is anticipated that the evening may also provide an opportunity for an update on the Queensland Theological College (QTC) and the Spring Hill building. The future of the property in Spring Hill is one of the major implications of the receivership facing us in the short term. There are steps being taken by the QTC Board, and the Commission of

Assembly, to enable the college to source donations to purchase the property. We will provide more detail on that as we can, as will QTC via its communication channels. Please pray for the faculty and students as the vital work of raising up workers for the harvest continues, and for our QTC Board as they serve this task by seeking to raise funds for the purchase of the building.

The Commission also notes that the LPOs maintain their open offer to meet with congregations, Sessions, or Committees of Management to assist in understanding the issues around the receivership, including the Receivers' report.

Looking beyond the Receivership, the Commission is committed to serving the denomination and addressing ways it can better operate and engage openly with both the Assembly and the broader PCQ community.

We recognise that where there's been a gap in communication that a gap in trust can also grow. The Commission is hopeful that as we are able to communicate more transparently about the circumstances we find ourselves in this will be part of a changing culture within the denomination.

Please keep praying for wisdom, discernment, and guidance for the Commission of Assembly and the LPOs as they serve our denomination. Please continue to pray for the situation before the courts. We will keep you updated as the court makes rulings around the Receivers report.

For and on behalf of the Commission of Assembly,

Yours sincerely in Christ

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Purcell".

(Rev) Andrew Purcell  
PCQ Moderator-Elect