

TO: QTU REPRESENTATIVES

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QIRC issues orders – due process denied – moratorium continues

The QIRC today issued orders that the moratorium on the implementation of the 2010 NAPLAN tests be withdrawn and that QTU members be directed to conduct the tests.

These orders were issued in the absence of the QTU. Given the significance of the issues with the My School website and the need to protect the professional and industrial interests of teachers, the QTU sought for the hearing on the issuing of orders to be referred to a full bench of the Commission.

The decision to issue orders was made in a repeated absence of due process from the QIRC:

- Deputy President Bloomfield denied the referral of the matter to a full bench and proceeded to the hearing of the department's application for orders.
- The QTU sought an adjournment of the hearing to enable it to present witness evidence on the matter – this adjournment was denied.
- The QTU sought an adjournment of the hearing to prepare questions and documents for the examination of the department's witness in the matter – this adjournment was denied.

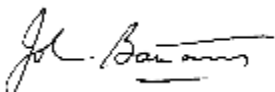
Given the Commission's continued failure to provide the QTU adequate opportunities to present fulsome arguments on the matter, it became apparent that the decision of the Commission was pre-determined. Consequently, the QTU walked out of the proceedings.

It has been clear throughout the Commission's consideration of this matter that it is not interested in the professions concerns with the My School website. Nor is it interested in the intransigence of the federal government and Deputy Prime Minister in refusing to negotiate.

In light of the Commission's orders, QTU Senior Officers will make a recommendation to QTU Executive on the next steps in this campaign on Tuesday night (4 May 2010).

In making its decision this afternoon and during the EB6 dispute the Commission has demonstrated that it is becoming increasingly difficult for employees and unions to receive a fair hearing in this state.

Authorised by:



John Battams
General Secretary