

Commission of Inquiry announces hearings

02 August 2012

The Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry today announced its next round of hearings, which will commence in Brisbane on Monday 13 August, 2012.

Commissioner Tim Carmody SC will call representatives of government agencies as the first witnesses to the Inquiry. A list of witnesses will be released next week.

The Brisbane hearings are expected to run for three weeks before the Commission will move to hold hearings in regional and rural centres. A schedule will be published as soon as possible.

All Brisbane hearings will be conducted in Court 17, level 4 of the Brisbane Magistrates Court, George Street, and will run from Monday to Thursday starting at 10 am, unless specified otherwise.

Commissioner Carmody said that the Commission continues to encourage public submissions.

“Public submissions will be an essential part of the material considered by the Inquiry,” he said.

“I’m calling on Queenslanders who have had contact with the child protection system to get in touch and tell us about their experiences.

“I’m interested in both good and bad experiences – we need to know what works and what doesn’t.”

The Commission’s Terms of Reference allow the Inquiry to investigate matters including the Queensland Government’s response to children and families in the child protection system, the transition of children exiting the system, and the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in child protection.

Issues of privacy will be taken into account if requested and submissions can be made in confidence where necessary.

Confidential submissions may include personal experiences or other sensitive information such as commercial-in-confidence material.

An online form can be accessed on the Commission’s website. This is the preferred and most secure way of making a submission. More information about making a submission is available at www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/submissions

The first round of submissions will close on September 28.

ENDS

Media Contact: 3405 9783 or 3405 9785

<http://www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/>

Follow us on Twitter @QCPCI

<http://www.twitter.com/QCPCI>