

Queensland Teachers Union of Employees

Certificate of Election

The Queensland Industrial Registrar issued a Decision, pursuant to the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*, on 28 February 2024 that the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) conduct an election for the Queensland Teachers Union of Employees for the following positions:

Office	No. of Positions
State Council Representative of a Branch	
First Nations	2

Table 1 – Positions of Office

A Notice of Election and Nomination Form detailing the election arrangements was distributed to members in the Union journal on Thursday, 28 March 2024. The timetable for the election was advertised as follows:

- Nominations open on Thursday, 28 March 2024;
- Nominations close at midday on Monday, 22 April 2024;
- Secret Postal Ballot, if required, will open Wednesday, 15 May 2024;
- Ballot to close at midday on Tuesday, 11 June 2024.

Nominations

Nomination forms were received by the following:

Office	No. of Positions	Nominees
State Council Representative of a Branch		
First Nations.....	2	COULAHAN, Belinda FILEWOOD, Toni MCLEAN, Yolanda VASS, Skye

Table 2 – Summary of Nominations

The ECQ accepted the nomination of all candidates as inquiries with the Union's membership records revealed that they are eligible for election to the positions of office contested.

Ballots

The ECQ conducted a postal ballot to declare the following positions:

- State Council Representative of a Branch – First Nations

There were 64 envelopes returned however 1 did not pass the initial scrutiny once opened. It was rejected for the following reason:

- Declaration flap not signed or missing.

Ballots were counted under the Optional Preferential voting system.

State Council Representative of a Branch – First Nations

Two (2) to be elected

Formal ballot papers = 62

Informal ballot papers = 1

Total ballot papers = 63

As there are 2 candidates to be elected to the position, each ballot paper contains 2 votes. $62 \times 2 = 124$.

Distribution of preferences is as follows:

Candidates in Ballot Paper Order	Primary Votes	Excluded <u>Filewood</u>	New Total	Status
VASS, Skye	30	8	38	
COULAHAN, Belinda	39	2	41	Elected
MCLEAN, Yolanda	29	3	32	Elected**
FILEWOOD, Toni	26			Excluded
Exhausted		13		
Total votes	124		111	

Table 3 – Preference votes count for State Council Representative of a Branch – First Nations

At the conclusion of the Primary Vote count, Toni Filewood had the lowest number of votes so, where applicable, her votes were distributed to the other candidates.

**QTU Constitution and Rules Section 8.1 (e) Composition of Council states the following:

Two additional Representatives of First Nations descent, with a Torres Strait Islander person living and working in the Torres Strait to be given preference where one applies.

As such, the Queensland Teachers Union advised that both Toni Filewood and Yolanda McLean identify as being of Torres Strait Islander descent and both live and work within the Torres Strait. As such, a minimum of one of these two candidates (Toni Filewood and Yolanda McLean) should be successful at ballot.

Declaration

I, HAMISH GORNIAK, an officer of the Electoral Commission of Queensland assigned to conduct an election by the Industrial Registrar in Decision RIO 2024/ 78 issued pursuant to the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*, DECLARE THAT: -

BELINDA COULAHAN and YOLANDA MCLEAN are elected to the office of State Council Representative of a Branch – First Nations.

within the QUEENSLAND TEACHERS UNION OF EMPLOYEES in accordance with the Rules of the Industrial Organisation.

Hamish Gorniak
Returning Officer
18 June 2024