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tactic of diverting attention away from what he doesn't want us to see — his failures.

The furore over his latest exercise in bad taste, (the "shooter" ad), is reaping Bob a double dividend — It's drawn attention to one of his hobby horses while questions about his lacklustre performance as our representative are conveniently avoided.

The arrival of expensive glossy rave-sheets in our letter boxes heralding doom and gloom; making extravagant claims about his role in rescuing the live cattle export trade; and, surprisingly, claiming some of the "credit" for reinstating Kevin Rudd as Prime Minister are part of Bob's strategy to create the illusion that words are a substitute for action.

The tactic of spouting endless "facts and figures" in his public offerings is another favourite tactic.

Bob is good at telling people what they want to hear about what's wrong with our country and Government while knowing that he will never have to face the challenge of fixing the problems he rants about.

In my opinion the people of Kennedy have been short-changed by this political illusionist for a long time.

We need more than words and wacky stunts from our Federal Parliamentary representative. Of all the candidates for Kennedy, I believe Jonathan Pavetto is best placed to achieve a much needed boost in Canberra's understanding of Kennedy's priority needs.

He is a well-informed persuasive speaker who has the ability to effectively represent our interests in the Party Room and in the Parliament.

One thing is clear, we cannot afford another three years of inertia from the current member, so let's go for change on July 2.

*Ray Byrnes, Yungaburra*

## FIXING RURAL ROADS MUST BE A GOVERNMENT PRIORITY

I am pleased to see that road infrastructure has become one of the top priorities for the State Government in its Advancing North Queensland plan.

In our highly decentralised state roads are a vital key in driving our economy forward.



An accessible and safe road network is crucial for regional areas, for the delivery of goods and services, freight movement and the tourism industry. However, over the years there has been a lack of sufficient investment for road maintenance and upgrades.

My observation is that the inland Queensland region continues to secure much less than its fair share of funding in relation to its economic contribution to the nation and area covered.

While the State Budget delivered some funding to roads in inland Queensland, there is still a long way to go to bring our roads up to standard.

For example, 3,000km and 300 bridges across the inland network are not up to scratch. These alarming statistics were revealed in the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP).

The IQ-RAP prioritises road upgrades over the next 18 years.

It is important that regional roads are a priority for all levels of government, in order to drive economic growth and jobs, for this generation and generations to come.

We look forward to further commitments to the regional Queensland road network, both in the

north and inland areas.  
*Peter Maguire, Working Group Chair, Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan*

## NICHOLLS BUDGET REPLY FAILS TO LEVEL WITH TAXPAYERS

The State Budget has a 'back to work' focus with a suite of programs that invest in innovation and infrastructure to attract new businesses and boost existing ones — all to create new jobs now and for the future.

Our number-one priority remains job creation, especially in regional Queensland.

The official Budget Reply speech by Opposition Leader Tim Nicholls was a disappointing mix of negativity and plagiarised Labor promises.

He continued the LNP campaign, now in its fifth year, of talking down our state and its future while announcing a few "policies" which were just pale imitations of several Labor initiatives which cost more and achieve less.

Significantly, he failed to declare his position on asset sales despite saying some time ago that he would do so "in due course".

The natural forum was his Budget Reply, but once again he failed to level

with Queensland a one-point economic revenue-growth

More significant to key revenue Budget. He does billion State Infrastructure will deliver infrastructure p

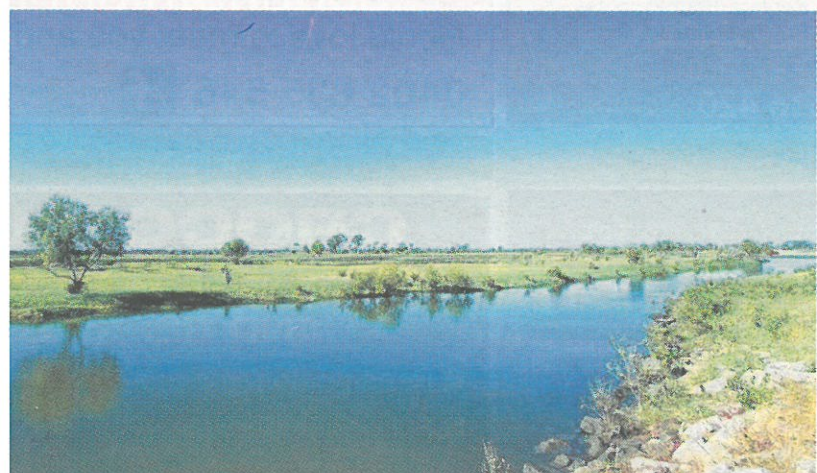
In doing so an \$8 billion "budget commitments. first tell Queensland up \$8 billion in detailing any n

A case in point for a 3 per cent buyers of residential Nicholls is opposed when the NSW it included a six cent.

It shows how Mr Nicholls realises he has put into alternative plan

Mr Nicholls and to back regional infrastructure. *Curtis Pitt, Treasurer*

# g eye



Autumn day in North Queensland #burdekin #clearsky #autumn #northqueensland @burdekinontourism @townsvilleshines @townsvillenorthqueensland @discoverqueensland @queensland @tropicalnorthqueensland. Image by

# Online

## SUGAR TAX ON TABLE

How ridiculous is this.  
*Lyn Viero*

No! It's a stupid idea which will turn Australia in a nanny state!  
*William Walker*

No just another tax. For a child to play sport it's so expensive most people can't afford it.  
*Judith Muscat*

Why don't the Greens just hit the people in the hip pocket a bit more. We rely on sugar here to bring money into out town, this is our livelihood so why are they trying to ruin it. Sugar is a natural product start looking into processed foods that

facebook.com/BurdekinAdvocate

obesity.  
*Denise Devescovi*

More control over us!  
*Rebecca Aldridge*

## URANNAH VS BURDEKIN FALLS DAM

Any dam has got to be a bonus to the country no matter where it's built.  
*Ross Anderson*

I think both are very important. And in addition to the Hell Gate and the Blue Valley dam too.  
*William Walker*

A smart country would build both. Australia will do two feasibility studies.

# SM

## BURD

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## STOP

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