

# MBA Limited National Board industry dinner

In May, Master Builders Queensland played host to the MBA Limited National Board meeting, which included an industry dinner.

Almost 300 guests gathered at the Hilton Hotel to hear keynote speaker, the Honourable Dr Bruce Flegg MP, Minister for Housing and Public Works, share the LNP's vision for restoring confidence to the building and construction industry and Queensland's economy.

Minister Flegg revealed the announcement of a major new project (Brisbane CBD Masterplan) was imminent, as well as outlining further promises to cut red tape and some additional projects in the pipeline that will provide further stimulus for the housing and construction sectors.

Master Builders Queensland President, Derek Pingel, was on hand to explain how 2012 represents a significant period for Queensland's building and construction industry, with the LNP's landslide state election win placing them in a position to make some vital changes that will make a real difference to the industry.

He covered some of the LNP changes to date, such as the new look Department of Housing and Public Works and the reinstatement of the stamp duty concession. He also commented that 2012 is "make or break" time for building in Queensland. With the economy historically being driven by the housing sector, he expressed concern about activity levels that remain 40% below pre-GFC figures and the need for solutions to restore confidence and ensure no more industry jobs are lost.

Finally, he reinforced the important work the Master Builders Foundation is performing. Projects underway with key partners MATES in Construction, Youngcare and Cerebral Palsy League were highlighted in the official Master Builders Foundation promotional DVD, which didn't leave many dry eyes in the room.

Second guest speaker, National President of MBA Limited, Peter Kennedy, spoke extensively of the industry at a national level and the work being done in conjunction with the federal government to ensure key industry issues are addressed.

Other special guests included the Honourable Fiona Simpson MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland; members of the national board; state and territory Executive Directors; past Master Builders Queensland Presidents; and Master Builders Queensland state councillors, committee members and sponsors – all of whom contribute greatly to the Master Builders movement.



Left to right: Anita Schriek, John Thurtell, Rick Burns (Vice President, Master Builders Queensland) and Peter Schriek.



Left to right: Chris Pingel, Derek Pingel (President, Master Builders Queensland), The Hon. Dr Bruce Flegg MP, Peter Kennedy (President, MBA Limited), Graham Cuthbert (Executive Director, Master Builders Queensland) and Sharyn Cuthbert.



Guests enjoyed the hospitality of the Hilton Hotel.