

MEDIA RELEASE

29 June 2026

Townsville's Dr Helen Fraser to lead RDAQ advocacy agenda

Townsville-based rural generalist Dr Helen Fraser has stepped into the role of President of the Rural Doctors Association of Queensland (RDAQ), following the organisation's Annual General Meeting held at the Pullman Cairns International on Saturday 27 June 2026.

Dr Fraser addressed delegates to close the RDAQ2026 conference, outlining her focus on sustaining and strengthening healthcare delivery across rural, regional and remote Queensland.

"It's a privilege to take on this important role with an organisation that provides essential advocacy, support and connection for rural doctors," Dr Fraser said.

"Having worked as a rural generalist, I've seen firsthand the impact RDAQ has in supporting our workforce and communities. I was encouraged to step forward and contribute, and I'm proud to be able to give back in this capacity."

Dr Fraser succeeds Longreach's Dr David Walker, who now assumes the role of Immediate Past-President with Dr David Molhoek (Toowoomba) affirmed as president-elect.

Looking ahead, Dr Fraser said strengthening core areas of advocacy such as maternity, primary care and workforce needs would be a priority.

"Maintaining and growing maternity services in rural communities, supporting sustainable rural GP services, and strengthening training pathways that retain doctors in these careers are absolutely critical," she said.

"Additionally, a significant proportion of doctors working in rural Queensland are internationally trained, and it's vital we continue to engage, support and advocate for this workforce through strong networks and meaningful representation."

Dr Fraser said RDAQ's strength lies in its grassroots, clinician-led approach.

"RDAQ is governed by passionate rural doctors who understand the challenges of our profession because they live them every day," she said.

"That lived experience ensures our advocacy is authentic and our voice is strong as healthcare delivery continues to evolve."

She also highlighted the importance of the annual RDAQ Conference and elevating advocacy to a national level.

"This event is fundamental in bringing together doctors from across Queensland's rural communities and creating connection, sharing experiences and building a collective voice that drives change," Dr Fraser said.

"We're pleased to have representation from our Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA) colleagues here as well, and as RDAQ President, I'm committed to ensuring Queensland's voice is active in national conversations shaping the future of rural healthcare."

2026–2027 RDAQ Executive and Management Committee

Executive

President:	Dr Helen Fraser - Townsville
President-elect:	Dr David Molhoek – Dalby
Immediate Treasurer:	Past President: Dr David Walker - Longreach
Treasurer:	Dr Elizabeth Clarkson - Theodore
Secretary:	Dr Felicity Constable - Toowoomba

Management Committee

Dr Liam Weber - Kingaroy
Dr Anneliese Slack - Sarina
Dr Matthew Masel - Goondiwindi
Dr Rebekah Adams - Kingaroy
Dr Cameron Hoare - Atherton
Dr Stephen Tucker – Toowoomba

Two remaining Management Committee positions are to be confirmed via electronic ballot.

DOWNLOAD PHOTOS: [HERE](#)

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