



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media statement

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Roma's Lane Brookes inspires at National Indigenous Youth Parliament 2017

YESTERDAY, Maranoa MP David Littleproud jumped at the opportunity to meet with trailblazer Lane Brookes, who represented our region, at the National Indigenous Youth Parliament 2017 in Canberra.

“The Youth Parliament aims to inspire and encourage electoral participation by developing young leaders and Lane’s selection recognises his wonderful potential. It was a real thrill to meet Lane, as he’s so passionate and committed to our community,” Mr Littleproud said.

The NIYP is a week-long leadership program for 50 Indigenous Australians, aged 16 to 25, and the 22-year-old from Roma was selected from an outstanding field of 306 applications from across Australia.

“The centrepiece of the program was a two-day simulated parliament at Old Parliament House. Lane, and the other youth parliamentarians, debated bills on issues they identified as important to their communities such as education, employment and mental health,” Mr Littleproud said.

The final bills will be presented to the Federal Government for consideration in policymaking.

About Lane Brookes, 22, Roma:

Lane’s nation is the Mandandanji and Kangoulu in the western districts of Queensland. He’s forged a strong reputation in his home town of Roma, where he has organised activities that raised over \$50,000 to benefit local people as part of the annual charity rugby league All Stars game.

Lane was motivated to encourage community members to strive to look after each other and those less fortunate. He sees it as a way to enable youth volunteers to develop pride in their culture and community.

In 2016, Lane was awarded Young Legend of the Year for Australian Tidy Towns on the strength of his commitment, community spirit and the energy he throws into every venture. Lane’s dream is to become a politician.

He lives on his traditional land, loves his community and aspires to be the youngest councillor, first Aboriginal Mayor for Roma and Member of Parliament for Maranoa.

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