

PETER BRADFORD — TRIBUTE

Statement by Minister for Mines and Petroleum

MR W.J. JOHNSTON (Cannington — Minister for Mines and Petroleum) [12.17 pm]: I rise today to acknowledge the contribution of the late Mr Peter Bradford, who passed away suddenly on Saturday, 15 October 2022. It was a privilege to be invited to speak at Peter's memorial service at the State Theatre Centre of Western Australia in December last year, which was attended by many members of the mining industry. He made a significant contribution to Western Australia and its mining sector, particularly the development of its battery and critical minerals industry, which is vital to clean energy transition, and the state's move downstream in the battery value chain.

Peter's vision for the state saw IGO partner with Tianqi Lithium Corporation in the Greenbushes lithium mine—the world's largest hard-rock lithium mine—and to develop the Kwinana lithium hydroxide plant. The facility is the first of its kind in the state and the first to achieve commercial production of battery-grade lithium hydroxide. He grew IGO's nickel interests, establishing it as a significant nickel producer, initially through the Nova operation and more recently by the acquisition of the Forrestania operation and the Cosmos development project. Combined with IGO's proposal to develop precursor cathode active materials at Kwinana, Peter leaves a lasting contribution to the future development of Western Australia's critical minerals processing and battery manufacturing industries. Peter was an active member of the Future Battery and Critical Minerals Industries Ministerial Taskforce over a number of years, contributing to the implementation of the state's future battery and critical minerals industries strategy to grow Western Australia's participation in global battery minerals supply chains. He also led the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies as president since 2019. He was an active mentor for Women in Mining Western Australia, a committee member of CEOs for Gender Equity, a former West Australian Mining Club committee member and vice-president, and a passionate alumnus of the Western Australian School of Mines.

Peter's passing was a great loss for Western Australia and its mining sector. We send our deepest condolences to Peter's family and friends and his colleagues in the mining industry here in Western Australia and around the globe.