

ROYAL QUEENSLAND THEATRE COMPANY ACT 1970

Reprinted as in force on 19 December 1994 (includes amendments up to Act No. 88 of 1990)

Reprint No. 1

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Information about this reprint

This Act is reprinted as at 19 December 1994. The reprint-

- shows the law as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before that day
- incorporates all necessary consequential amendments, whether of punctuation, numbering or another kind.

The reprint includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made—see List of legislation and List of annotations in Endnotes.

Minor editorial changes allowed under the provisions of the Reprints Act 1992 mentioned in the following list have also been made to—

- update citations and references (Pt 4, Div 2)
- update references (Pt 4, Div 3)
- express gender specific provisions in a way consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 24)
- use gender neutral office names (s 25)
- use different spelling consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 26(2))
- use standard punctuation consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 27)
- use conjunctives and disjunctives consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 28)
- use expressions consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 29)
- reorder definitions consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 30)
- use aspects of format and printing style consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 35)
- omit provisions that are no longer required (ss 37, 38 and 39)
- omit unnecessary referential words (s 41)
- omit the enacting words(s 42A)
- number and renumber certain provisions and references (s 43).

Also see Endnotes for information about—

- when provisions commenced
- provisions that have not commenced and are not incorporated in the reprint
- editorial changes made in the reprint, including—
 - Table of changed names and titles
 - Table of obsolete and redundant provisions
 - Table of renumbered provisions.



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ROYAL QUEENSLAND THEATRE COMPANY ACT 1970

[as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before 19 December 1994]

An Act to provide for the establishment and incorporation of a body to be known as the Royal Queensland Theatre Company, to make provision with respect to the administration of that body, and for purposes incidental thereto

Short title and commencement

1.(1) This Act may be cited as the *Royal Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970.*

(2) This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Governor in Council by proclamation published in the Gazette.

Definitions

s 1

2. In this Act—

"Board" means the Board of the Royal Queensland Theatre Company constituted under this Act.

"by-laws" means by-laws made under section 32.

"chairperson" means the chairperson of the Board.

- "deputy chairperson" means the deputy chairperson of the Board.
- **"Theatre Company"** means the Royal Queensland Theatre Company established and incorporated under this Act.
- **"theatre equipment"** means furniture, furnishings, fittings, plant, equipment, stage scenery, properties, costumes, drapes, curtains and chattels suitable or convenient for the production of stage presentations.

Constitution of the Royal Queensland Theatre Company

3.(1) There is hereby established a body by the name of the Royal Queensland Theatre Company.

(2) The Theatre Company—

- (a) is a body corporate, with perpetual succession; and
- (b) shall have a common seal; and
- (c) is capable of acquiring, holding and disposing of real and personal property; and
- (d) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
- (e) is capable of doing and suffering of such other acts and things that a body corporate may by law do and suffer.

Membership of the Theatre Company

4. The Theatre Company shall consist of—

- (a) the persons and bodies corporate who are for the time being members of the Theatre Company in accordance with the by-laws; and
- (b) the persons for the time being holding office as members of the Board.

Objects of the Theatre Company

5. The objects of the Theatre Company are—

- (a) to promote and encourage the development and presentation of the arts of the theatre;
- (b) to promote and encourage public interest and participation in the arts of the theatre;
- (c) to promote and encourage either directly or indirectly the knowledge, understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of drama, opera, ballet, music and other arts of the theatre in all their expressions, forms and media;
- (d) to produce, present and manage plays, opera, ballet and other

forms and kinds of theatre or entertainment in the State Government Insurance Office Theatre and at other places;

- (e) to establish and conduct schools, lectures, courses, seminars and other forms of education in drama and other arts of the theatre;
- (f) to teach, train and instruct persons and promote education and research in drama and other arts of the theatre;
- (g) to provide or assist to provide theatres and appurtenances of theatres.

Powers of the Theatre Company

6.(1) Subject to this Act the Theatre Company has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done in connection with, or as incidental to, the carrying out of its objects.

(2) Without limiting the generality of the last preceding subsection, and any other powers conferred upon the Theatre Company by the provisions of this Act other than this section, the powers of the Theatre Company include power—

- (a) to engage and enter into contracts for the appearance of artists, entertainers and performers;
- (b) to employ writers, composers, choreographers, designers and producers;
- (c) to purchase theatre equipment and install and use that equipment in any theatre;
- (d) to make charges for admission to entertainments or other functions held by the Theatre Company;
- (e) to grant rights to televise, broadcast, film or record entertainments or other functions held by the Theatre Company.

The Board

7.(1) There shall be a Board of the Theatre Company which shall have and may exercise and discharge the powers, authorities, duties and functions conferred or imposed upon the Board by or under this Act.

(2) Subject to this Act the Board shall be the governing authority of the Theatre Company and shall administer, manage and conduct the affairs thereof and may exercise all such powers of the Theatre Company as are not specifically conferred on any other body or person.

Constitution of Board other than first Board

9.(1) The Board other than the first Board shall consist of not less than 7 and not more than 10 members who shall be appointed by the Governor in Council and notice of any such appointment shall be published in the Gazette.

(2) The Board constituted in accordance with this section shall assume office upon such day as the Governor in Council may appoint and notify by publication in the Gazette.

(3) A member of the Board other than the first Board shall be appointed upon the nomination of the Minister after consultation with such persons, authorities, organisations and associations as the Minister thinks fit.

(4) Subject to this Act, a member of the Board shall hold office for such period not exceeding 3 years, as is specified in the notice of the member's appointment.

(5) A member of the Board is eligible for reappointment.

(6) The performance of the functions or the exercise of the powers of the Board is not affected by reason only there being a vacancy or vacancies in the membership of the Board or there being a defect in the appointment of a member.

Chairperson and deputy chairperson

10.(1) The Governor in Council shall point a member of the Board to be the chairperson of the Board.

(2) The members of the Board shall appoint a member to be the deputy chairperson of the Board.

(3) A member appointed as the chairperson or deputy chairperson shall hold office as such until the appointment of another member as the chairperson or deputy chairperson, as the case may be, until the expiration of the period of the member's appointment as member or until the member otherwise ceases to be a member whichever first happens.

(4) The chairperson or deputy chairperson may, by written notice addressed to the Minister resign office as the chairperson or the deputy chairperson.

(5) Where a member appointed as the chairperson or deputy chairperson is, upon ceasing to be the chairperson or the deputy chairperson, as the case may be, by virtue of the expiration of the period of his or her appointment as a member, reappointed as a member the member is eligible for reappointment as the chairperson or deputy chairperson.

Patron and vice-patrons

11. The Board may elect a patron and any number of vice-patrons of the Theatre Company, but the persons so elected shall not by reason of such election be members of the Board.

Vacancies in Board

12.(1) A member of the Board shall be deemed to have vacated the member's office if the member—

- (a) dies or becomes a patient (within the meaning of the *Mental Health Act 1974*);
- (b) resigns office by written notice addressed to the Minister (such resignation to be complete and take effect from the time when it is received by the Minister);
- (c) is absent from 3 consecutive ordinary meetings of the Board of which notice has been given to the member personally or in the ordinary course of post without leave of absence granted by the Board;
- (d) is removed from office by the Governor in Council.

(2) The Governor in Council may for any cause which appears to the Governor in Council to be sufficient, remove any member of the Board from office.

(3) A member of the Board who is directly or indirectly interested in a contract made or proposed to be made by the Theatre Company (otherwise

than as a member, and in common with the other members, of an incorporated company consisting of not less than 25 persons) shall, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to the member's knowledge, disclose the nature of the member's interest at a meeting of the Board.

(4) A disclosure under subsection (3) shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board and the member—

- (a) shall not take part after the disclosure in any deliberation or decision of the Board with respect to that contract; and
- (b) shall be disregarded for the purpose of constituting a quorum of the Board for that deliberation or decision.

Casual Vacancies

13.(1) Where a vacancy occurs in the office of a member of the Board before the expiration of the member's term of office the casual vacancy so arising shall be filled by a person appointed thereto by the Governor in Council on the nomination of the Minister.

(2) The member filling any such casual vacancy shall, subject to this Act, hold office as member until the time when the member's predecessor's term of office, would have expired and shall be eligible for reappointment.

Meetings, procedure, quorum etc.

14.(1) The procedure for the calling of meetings of the Board and the conduct of business at such meetings shall, subject to any by-laws in relation thereto in force, be as determined by the Board.

(2) Any 4 members shall be a quorum for the purposes of any meeting of the Board.

(3) Any duly convened meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to transact any business of the Board and shall have and may exercise and discharge all the powers, authorities, duties and functions by this Act conferred or imposed upon the Board.

(4) A decision of the majority of members present at a meeting of the Board shall be the decision of the Board and in the event of an equality of votes upon any matter at a meeting the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.

(5) At a meeting of the Board the chairperson or, if the chairperson is not present, the deputy chairperson shall preside but if both the chairperson and deputy chairperson are not present, the members present shall elect a person from their number to preside as chairperson.

(6) The Board shall keep a record of its proceedings at meetings.

Common seal

15. The common seal shall be kept in the custody of the chairperson or such other member as the Board may determine and shall not be affixed to any instrument or writing except by authority of a resolution of the Board and in the presence of at least 1 member of the Board and the Secretary or such other person as the Board shall appoint for the purpose.

Delegation of powers of Board

16.(1) The Board may either generally or in relation to a matter or class of matters by resolution delegate all or any of its powers, authorities, duties and functions under this Act (except this power of delegation).

(2) A power, authority, duty or function so delegated may be exercised or performed by the delegate in accordance with the instrument of delegation.

(3) A delegation under this section is revocable at will and does not prevent the exercise or performance of a power, authority, duty or function by the Board.

Protection of Board

17. No action, suit or proceeding shall be brought or maintained against any member of the Board or any person who has been a member of the Board in respect of any act or action done or taken or omitted to be done or taken by the Board under this Act in the bona fide exercise of powers conferred or reasonably believed by the said member to have been conferred by this Act.

Appointment of staff

18.(1) The Board may appoint an artistic director, a secretary and such

other staff as it deems necessary for the carrying out of the objects of the Theatre Company.

(2) The terms and conditions of employment (including remuneration) of persons employed under this section shall be such as are determined by the Board.

(3) The artistic director and other persons appointed under this section shall perform such duties and have such functions as may be prescribed by the by-laws or in so far as not prescribed as the Board may direct.

Country branches

19.(1) The Board may from time to time approve of the establishment of country branches of the Theatre Company which, subject to the Board, shall have and may exercise and discharge such of the powers, authorities, duties and functions of the Theatre Company as are for the time being conferred and imposed upon or delegated to such branches by the Board.

(2) A country branch shall be constituted in accordance with the by-laws.

Power to accept gifts

20. The Theatre Company may accept any gift (whether by will or inter vivos) of any property of whatsoever kind and wheresoever situate, and whether in possession, reversion, or remainder.

Power of the Theatre Company to cooperate with other bodies

21. The Theatre Company may—

- (a) cooperate with any corporation, body or society (whether in Queensland or not) having 1 or more objects wholly or substantially similar to the objects of the Theatre Company for the purpose of promoting the objects of such corporation, body or society or the objects of the Theatre Company; and
- (b) if it thinks fit become a member of or an affiliate of any such corporation, body or society.

Power to lend and accept property on loan

22.(1) The Theatre Company may lend or make available to any corporation, body or society (whether in Queensland or not) having 1 or more objects wholly or substantially similar to the objects of the Theatre company, upon such terms and conditions as the Board thinks fit, any theatre equipment or other property of the Theatre Company or of which it has the care or control.

(2) The Theatre Company may accept on loan any theatre equipment or other property.

Sale or disposal of certain property

23.(1) Where the Board is satisfied that any property for the time being vested in the Theatre Company is unfit or not required for the objects of the Theatre Company, the Theatre Company may (notwithstanding the terms of any trust affecting the property or any arrangement or condition made or agreed to by it at the time of the acquisition of the property by the Theatre Company)—

- (a) sell the property or exchange it for any other property; or
- (b) dispose of the property without consideration or in the case of personal property destroy the property if the Board adjudges it to be of no saleable value.

(2) The proceeds of any sale made by the Theatre Company in the exercise of the power conferred on it by subsection (1) shall after deduction therefrom of the costs of and incidental to the sale be held for the objects of the Theatre Company.

(3) Any property sold or disposed of by way of exchange or otherwise by the Theatre Company purporting to exercise any of the powers conferred on it by subsection (1) shall vest in the person acquiring the property by virtue of the sale or disposition freed and discharged from any trust arrangement or condition relating to any sale or disposition of the property or to the use of the property to which the property was subject in the hands of the Theatre Company.

(4) No person acquiring any property from the Theatre Company purporting to exercise any of the powers conferred on it by subsection (1) shall be concerned to inquire whether a case has arisen to authorise the sale or other disposition of the property or whether the power was otherwise properly and regularly exercised or to see to the application of any purchase money paid to the Theatre Company.

Application of moneys

24. Subject to section 27, the moneys of the Theatre Company shall be applied only in payment or discharge of the expenses, charges, obligations and liabilities incurred or undertaken by the Theatre Company in or in connection with the exercise of its powers and the carrying out of its objects under this Act.

No payment of dividend

25. No dividend, bonus or other profit shall at any time be paid out of the income or property of the Theatre Company to any member thereof.

Power of the Theatre Company to borrow moneys

26. For the purpose of carrying out any object of the Theatre Company, the Theatre Company may from time to time borrow moneys and give security for repayment thereof by a mortgage, charge or any form of security over any property of the Theatre Company, subject always to the provisions of any trust affecting such property or to any directions or restrictions attached thereto or imposed by the owner thereof.

Investment of funds

27.(1) The Theatre Company may, subject to any by-law in that behalf and to the provisions of any trust affecting its funds or to any directions or restrictions attached thereto or imposed by the donor thereof, from time to time invest any of its funds in any investments from time to time authorised by resolution of the Board whether an authorised trustee investment or not.

(2) The Theatre Company may retain and hold any investment which may be transferred to the Theatre Company otherwise than by way of purchase notwithstanding that such investments may not be of the nature authorised by subsection (1).

Provision by Crown towards expenses of the Theatre Company

28. The Crown may in any year by way of grant make such contribution towards the expenses, charges, obligations and liabilities incurred or to be incurred by the Theatre Company in or in connection with the exercise of its powers and the carrying out of its objects under this Act as is deemed proper.

Proper accounts to be kept

29. The Board shall keep accounts and records in such form as the Minister approves and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all payments out of moneys of the Theatre Company are properly authorised and that adequate control is maintained over the assets of the Theatre Company and the incurring by it of liabilities.

Superannuation scheme or arrangement

29A.(1) The Board is authorised and is deemed always to have been authorised to establish or participate in a provident scheme or arrangement or a scheme or arrangement that secures superannuation benefits, for such employees of the Board as are not required by any other Act to contribute to a scheme or arrangement of that kind under that Act.

(2) On or after the passing of the *Queensland Theatre Act and Another Act Amendment Act 1985* it shall not be competent to the Board—

- (a) to establish or to commence to participate in a scheme or arrangement such as is referred to in and authorised by subsection (1); or
- (b) to amend a scheme or arrangement such as is referred to in and authorised by subsection (1) established by the Board; or
- (c) to continue to participate in a scheme or arrangement such as is referred to in and authorised by subsection (1) that is amended subsequently to the passing of that Act and subsequently to the Board's commencing to participate therein;

unless the approval of the Governor in Council has first been obtained to the establishment, participation, amendment or, as the case may be, continued participation.

(3) The Governor in Council may grant the approval referred to in subsection (2) subject to such conditions as the Governor in Council sees fit including a condition that the terms and conditions of a scheme or arrangement established or participated in by the Board on or after the date of commencement of the *Queensland Theatre Company Act and Another Act Amendment Act 1985* shall include a provision authorising the Auditor-General or a person authorised by the Auditor-General for that purpose to audit the accounts and records of the financial transactions of the Board in respect of that scheme or arrangement.

(3A) When the Auditor-General is so authorised the Auditor-General shall have with respect to such audit all the powers and authorities conferred on the Auditor-General by the *Financial Administration and Audit Act* 1977.

(4) A reference to a scheme or arrangement in subsection (2)(b) or (c) includes a reference to any such scheme or arrangement which the Board has established before or in which the Board was participating immediately before the commencement of the *Queensland Theatre Company Act and Another Act Amendment Act 1985*.

Audit

30.(1) Accounts and records of financial transactions of the Theatre Company shall be audited by the Auditor-General or such other duly qualified person as may be approved by the Minister.

(2) The person by whom the audit is carried out pursuant to subsection (1) shall forthwith draw to the attention of the Board any irregularity disclosed by the person's audit that, in the person's opinion, is of sufficient importance to justify the person so doing.

(3) The auditor shall at least once in each year report to the Minister the results of the audit carried out under subsection (1).

Reports

31.(1) The Board shall furnish to the Minister such information relating to the operations of the Theatre Company as the Minister from time to time requires.

(2) The Board shall as soon as practicable after each 31 December furnish to the Minister a report of the operations of the Theatre Company during the year ended on that date, together with financial statements in such form as the Minister approves in respect of that year.

By-laws

32.(1) The Board may make by-laws not inconsistent with this Act for or with respect to—

- (a) regulating the affairs, business and management of the Theatre Company;
- (b) regulating the admission, resignation and expulsion of members of the Theatre Company;
- (c) the appointment and constitution of subcommittees of the Board (which may consist of or include persons not members of the Board) for such purposes and so constituted and with such powers and duties (including powers of delegation and co-option) as the Board may determine;
- (d) the manner and time of convening, holding and adjourning meetings of the Theatre Company, the Board and subcommittees of the Board and the proceedings at such meetings;
- (e) the management, control and investment of property vested in the Theatre Company;
- (f) the admission, exclusion or expulsion of the public or any person from any building or place leased or owned by the Theatre Company or of which it has the care and control and the rates or charges to be paid for admission thereto (which rates or charges may differ with respect to different parts thereof or as to the persons admitted thereto or as to the purpose to which the admission is related);
- (g) the conditions and restrictions upon and subject to which any use, benefit or loan of any property vested in the Theatre Company or of which it has the care or control be permitted or allowed;
- (h) all matters required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed;
- (i) any purpose, matter or thing necessary or convenient to be

prescribed for the purposes of the administration or the carrying out of the object of this Act.

(2) The by-laws may impose a penalty for any breach thereof not exceeding \$50 for any 1 offence.

(2A) Any such penalty may be recovered, sued or proceeded for in a summary way under the *Justices Act 1886* upon the complaint of a person authorised in that behalf, either generally or in a particular case, by the Board.

(3) Every by-law made by the Board shall be sealed with the common seal of the Theatre Company, shall be submitted for the consideration and approval of the Governor in Council, and when so approved shall—

- (a) be published in the Gazette;
- (b) take effect from the date of publication or from a later date to be specified in the by-law.

(4) A copy of every such by-law shall be laid before the Legislative Assembly within 14 sitting days after the publication thereof if the Legislative Assembly is in session and, if not, then within 14 sitting days after the commencement of the next session.

(5) If the Legislative Assembly passes a resolution of which notice has been given at any time within 14 sitting days after such by-law has been laid before the Legislative Assembly disallowing the by-law or part thereof, such by-law or part thereof shall thereupon cease to have effect but without prejudice to the validity to anything done in the meantime or to the making of a further by-law.

(6) Any function conferred upon the Board under this Act may be exercised notwithstanding that by-laws have not been made pursuant to the powers conferred by this section and the power to make by-laws with respect to any purpose, matter or thing shall not be taken as limiting any function conferred upon the Board by any provision of this Act.

Transitional

33.(3) All contracts, agreements and undertakings entered into with the body formerly known as the Board of the Queensland Theatre Company

and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be contracts, agreements and undertakings with the Theatre Company.

ENDNOTES

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2 Date to which amendments incorporated

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). Accordingly, this reprint includes all amendments that commenced operation on or before 19 December 1994. Future amendments of the Royal Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

3 List of legislation

Royal Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970 No. 7 date of assent 10 April 1970 commenced 7 August 1970 (proc pubd Gaz 8 August 1970 p 1944)

as amended by-

Queensland Theatre Company Act and Another Act Amendment Act 1985 No. 89 Pts 1–2

date of assent 9 December 1985 commenced on date of assent

Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1990 No. 88 s 3 Sch date of assent 6 December 1990 commenced on date of assent (see s 2(1))

4 List of annotations

Key to abbreviations in list of annotations

amd	=	amended
Ch	=	Chapter
cl	=	clause
def	=	definition
Div	=	Division
exp	=	expires/expired
hdg	=	heading
ins	=	inserted
om	=	omitted
prec	=	preceding
pres	=	present
prev	=	previous
(prev)	=	previously
prov	=	provision
Pt	=	Part
R1	=	Reprint No. 1
RA	=	Reprints Act 1992
renum	=	renumbered
Sdiv	=	Subdivision
sub	=	substituted

Provisions not included in reprint, or amended by amendments not included in reprint, are underlined

Long title amd 1985 No. 89 s 3

Short title and commencement

S	1	amd	1985	No.	89	S	4	1)

Definitions

s 2

def **"Board"** amd 1985 No. 89 s 6(a) def **"Minister"** om R1 (see RA s 39) def **"Theatre Company"** amd 1985 No. 89 s 6(b)

Constitution of the Royal Queensland Theatre Company

- prov hdg amd 1985 No. 89 s 7(a)
- **s 3** amd 1985 No. 89 s 7(b)

Constitution of first Board

s 8 om R1 (see RA s 37)

Superannuation scheme or arrangement

s 29A ins 1985 No. 89 s 8

Reports

s 31 amd 1990 No. 88 s 3 Sch

Transitional

s 33 amd R1 (see RA s 38)

5 Table of changed names and titles

TABLE OF CHANGED NAMES AND TITLES under the Reprints Act 1992 ss 23 and 23A

Old	New	Reference provision		
mentally ill person (or a similar term)	patient (within the meaning of the Mental Health Act 1974)	see Mental Health Act 1974 om s 4(f)(i)		

6 Table of obsolete and redundant provisions

TABLE OF OBSOLETE AND REDUNDANT PROVISIONS under the Reprints Act 1992 s 39

Omitted provision

Provision making omitted provision obsolete/redundant

definitions to be read in context

def "Minister"

Acts Interpretation Act 1954 s 32A Acts Interpretation Act 1954 ss 36, 33(1)-(4) and 24B(8)(b) (see also Reprints Act 1992 s 39, example 2)

Table of renumbered provisions 7

TABLE OF RENUMBERED PROVISIONS under the Reprints Act 1992 s 43

Previous

Renumbered as

29A(3), 2nd sentence 32(2), 2nd sentence

29A(3A) 32(2A)

8 Transitional and savings provisions

Queensland Theatre Company Act and Another Act Amendment Act 1985 s 4(2) provides—

(2) A reference in any Act passed before the commencement of this section or in any instrument or other document made before the commencement of this section to the "Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970" or to that Act as amended to any year specified in the reference shall be construed as a reference to the *Royal Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970* or, as the case may be, that Act as amended to the year so specified.

This subsection applies without prejudice to the operation of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954–1977*.