

**ROBBIE KATTER**

Member for Traeger



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### KATTER BACKS CALL TO IMMORTALISE LEAGUE LEGEND

Katter's Australian Party Leader, Traeger MP and one-time Young Guns player Robbie Katter MP has joined Matty "Mango" Bowen fans across the North in calling for the legendary full-back to be immortalised with a statue at the new North Queensland Stadium.

Mr Katter has agreed to sponsor an official parliamentary, run by Townsville's Steven Martin, calling for a statue of the "modern-day icon of the game" to be built at the newly-opened stadium.

The statue would serve not only as a tribute to Bowen's success, but also as an inspiration to league-loving kids from across the region who may dream of establishing their own NRL careers.

"(Bowen) was the NRL's top try-scorer in the 2005 and 2007 seasons, and he also still holds the Cowboy's record for most played matches," the petition reads.

"Though he has now retired from the game, (he) remains committed to developing a love of sport and creating a bright future for children across North and North West Queensland and he regularly works and volunteers in this space.

"(Matty) was born in North Queensland and had a highly successful career in the NRL, without having to move south to create his legacy.

"He is proof to all North Queenslanders that success can be earned here at home."

Mr Katter said Bowen epitomised what the North Queensland Cowboys were all about.

"Matty is a home-grown talent, a country boy from a remote town who realised his potential right here in our region and remained committed to the Cowboys right throughout his career.

"I was always a big fan of Matty's, and it would be a testament to his work on and off the field if we could make this statue a reality."

The petition is now live, and can be signed at [www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/petition-details?id=3290](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/petition-details?id=3290)

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