

NEW SOUTH WALES

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO

Bret Walker SC

GREETING

By these our Letters Patent, made and issued in Our name by Our Governor on the advice of the Executive Council and under the authority of the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW) and every other enabling power, We hereby authorise you as Commissioner to inquire into and report and make recommendations to Our Governor of the said State on:

- A. The knowledge, decisions and actions of Ruby Princess crew, medical staff and the ship operator, Princess Cruises, with respect to cases or potential cases of respiratory infections on the ship.
- B. The information provided to, communications between, and decisions and actions of Commonwealth and NSW agencies, including the Australian Border Force, the Federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, NSW Health, the NSW Police Force, NSW Ambulance and the Port Authority of NSW.
- C. Policies and protocols applied by Princess Cruises and Commonwealth and NSW Government agencies with respect to managing suspected or potential COVID-19 cases.
- D. Communications by Commonwealth and NSW Government agencies to passengers disembarking the Ruby Princess.
- E. Any other related matters that the Commissioner considers appropriate.

AND hereby establish a Special Commission of Inquiry for this purpose.

AND We direct you, in conducting the inquiry, to have regard to the global COVID-19 pandemic and:

- F. the departure from Sydney of the Ruby Princess on 8 March 2020;
- G. the voyage of the Ruby Princess between 8 March and 19 March 2020;

ENTERED on the Record by me in Register of Patents No. 92 Page 454, this 16th day of April 2020.

DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET
For SECRETARY



H. the docking and disembarkation of the Ruby Princess at Sydney on 19 March 2020; and

I. subsequent efforts to diagnose and treat, and to contain the community transmission of COVID-19 by, Ruby Princess passengers.

AND We direct you in conducting the inquiry, where you consider appropriate, to collaborate and share information with any investigation established by Australian or New Zealand authorities in relation to the Ruby Princess.

AND pursuant to section 21 of the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW) it is hereby declared that sections 22, 23 and 24 shall apply to and in respect of the Special Commission issued to you by Our Letters Patent.

AND OUR further will and pleasure is that, on or before 14 August 2020, you deliver your final report in writing of the results of your inquiry to the offices of the Premier and Our Governor in Sydney.

IN WITNESS, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Public Seal of Our State to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley,
Companion of the Order of Australia, Queen's Counsel, Governor of
the State of New South Wales in the Commonwealth of Australia.

Dated this 15th day of April 2020.

Margaret Beazley Governor

By Her Excellency's Command,



Premier.

