



Speech by

LINDY NELSON-CARR

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

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COMMUNITY CABINET, TOWNSVILLE ELECTORATE

Ms NELSON-CARR (Mundingburra—ALP) (10.27 a.m.): Last week in Townsville the community greeted our Government in style. In this House we have talked about the success of Community Cabinets, but I believe that the welcome and commitment given by the people of Townsville and Thuringowa to the Premier and his Cabinet was unprecedented. People turned up in large numbers at many venues as well as at the open and closed forums. There was a feeling of celebration and an open acceptance of a Government which is determined to listen to the people and have the people take part in the decision-making process. It was also a proud occasion for the local State Government members who were a part of this team.

The Premier and his Cabinet continue to make themselves available to the people, with work schedules that are simply awesome. There is an obvious swing by the people to back this Government's efforts to bring about a fairer and more equitable society. Last week in Townsville the State Government demonstrated its commitment to the city's future in a number of ways. Whereas previous Governments talked about problems, this Government has taken a proactive approach and has come up with solutions.

One fine example is this Government's commitment to the renewal of the city heart. Townsville is a major industrial centre which continues to grow. In joining with the Townsville City Council, the State Government will get the city centre moving again. This announcement made by the Beattie Government was just one of many commitments to the people of Townsville and the people of Queensland, who have seen proof of a Government determined to give all regions a say in future development.

At the end of a week of varied activities, it was fitting for Townsville to come out in force to support the Cowboys in what was to be a cliffhanger of a game. Over 30,000 spectators turned up to support their team and enthusiastically acknowledged their Premier in his address to the crowd prior to the game. Townsville and Thuringowa are famous for their community spirit. I think it would be fair to say that this city represents a growing groundswell of people who applaud this Government in its efforts to support all Queenslanders.
