



Speech by

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MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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APPROPRIATION BILLS—ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

Mrs MILLER (Bundamba—ALP) (12.46 p.m.): I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak briefly today to the budget estimates, particularly as they affect the people of Bundamba. I would like to talk about the Community Renewal Program of the Department of Housing because it has been an outstanding success in my area. We had two community renewal programs—one in the Dinmore-Riverview area and the second one in the Goodna-Gailes area. Although we are coming to the transition stages of both these programs, I can honestly inform this House that community renewal has made a huge difference in my area, especially insofar as community self-esteem, community wellbeing and our community's positive outlook on its future.

As the Community Renewal Program nears the end I can say that one of the most important programs funded by the Department of Housing was the multiarts multiskills program that ran in six primary schools and two high schools. We need an arts focus in community renewal, and I would like to thank our reference groups and, in particular, a former officer of the Department of Housing, Jane McTaggart, who helped champion this program in our local communities. I would also like to thank Julie Chenery of Youth Arts Queensland, all the principals, teachers and students of Bundamba State Secondary College, Redbank Plains State High School and our primary schools, including Dinmore, Riverview, Redbank, Goodna, Kruger and Redbank Plains for their involvement.

The finale of this event, held at the Goodna Cultural and Arts Centre, showed us how we, the people of our area, feel about our suburbs, how we are proud of who we are and proud of what we are, and how together we look forward to a better future. I would also like to inform the members of this House that we probably could not have put this together five or six years ago, but we are at the stage where we feel so good about our area that we were able to have this wonderful grand arts finale.

Tonight I will be officially opening the Redbank Plains State High School arts expo that also celebrates arts in our community. This expo has been an annual event since 2000 and is a significant date in our visual arts calendar in my area. Ian Ferguson, the principal, Nicholee Clarkson, the head of the department, Rachel Ingham, Suzie Bennett, Corinne Berry, Linda Delwijn and Brenda Trezise are all great arts teachers and great role models in our community.

I would also like to acknowledge Tammy McDermott, our school arts captain, and her fellow students who should be congratulated on their works of art throughout 2003. I want them to know that I stand in this parliament today as their representative with a smile a mile wide because I am so proud of their efforts. I am in awe of their academic, personal and social skills, and am pleased that their creative, critical and imaginative thinking has resulted in such fine visual arts. I am also proud that their families, their school and their whole community recognise their fantastic achievements. The Premier, the Minister for the Arts, the Minister for Education and I are all proud of them, and tonight I will be presenting a book called *Secret Knowledge* to an arts student in recognition of their fantastic arts achievements.

Today is also a significant day in our area as the Bremer TAFE is hosting a Springfield learning, skilling and work project seminar, but maybe it should be a little broader in focus. I have been working closely with industries in my electorate, with our TAFE, with our schools and with the Ipswich City Council and all our government departments as I want my electorate to be developed in a balanced and sensible way so that my people can get jobs, can get training and can live in a happy, healthy community. To this end, I think that it is important that the mayor, the councillors and I work together

and that we work with our town planners to ensure that our local planning and regional planning is a top priority of our city.

Just in my electorate, in regionally significant business and industry lands in the Swanbank-New Chum areas, there are now approximately 400 jobs, yet the jobs carrying capacity is estimated to be many times this level. In the Bundamba-Riverview areas there are approximately 3,400 existing jobs and in the Redbank area there are approximately 1,700 existing jobs, mainly in the QR workshops area. Yet we believe that the jobs carrying capacity could be much higher. We need to work together as a community between our levels of government and within the town planning and regional planning frameworks to ensure that any development is planned in a sensible and environmentally sustainable and healthy, friendly way to ensure that the jobs that come are local jobs. Education and Training Reforms for the Future—one of our government's key initiatives—is important in this process in linking schools, training, jobs and our community's future.

My electorate has a great future. I would like to thank the Premier, who recently was in my electorate at the Thiess landfill and who has always shows a keen interest in the people of Bundamba. Bundamba is a Labor heartland and we are a community that cares about each other. Thank God we have a Premier and a Beattie Labor government that cares about us.