



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 24 May 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Reconciliation Awards for Business

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.43 am): Some time ago we started the Reconciliation Awards for Business. With the Queensland Reconciliation Awards for Business closing this Friday, I call on Queensland enterprises both large and small to nominate their initiative, project or joint ventures. I seek leave to incorporate details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Ernie Dingo will be hosting the awards ceremony, which will be held here at Parliament House on the 27th of July.

The awards are an important showcase of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous individuals, employers and organisations who are promoting cross-cultural awareness and progressing reconciliation in this State.

The Awards also demonstrate my Government's commitment to reconciliation and ensuring all Queenslanders have the same opportunities in employment, education and a fairer future.

As 2006 marks the 10th anniversary of National Reconciliation Week, this year is a time to reflect on the progress of reconciliation programs this decade.

The Queensland Government is committed to advancing reconciliation and I urge Queensland businesses that have contributed in some way to reconciliation, to put their nomination forward.

I say to all members, please show your commitment to reconciliation and get involved. Reconciliation is everyone's business.