



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 2 November 2006

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Toowoomba, Community Cabinet

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.41 am): I am pleased to announce that the 97th community cabinet will be held in Toowoomba on 3 and 4 December. I seek leave to incorporate details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

I want to take this opportunity to urge everyone in the area to come and join the Queensland Cabinet on the afternoon of the 3rd at the Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE Campus, in Bridge Street Toowoomba.

As members know the Queensland Government's Community Cabinet's offer a unique opportunity for members of our community to discuss issues of concern—or to raise good ideas—directly with the Minister's responsible for making Queensland a better place to live.

Over the many years that my Government has been travelling around Queensland for Community Cabinets they have proved a very effective way of identifying problems and providing fast solutions.

Local member and now Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, the Hon Kerry Shine has been instrumental in ensuring that the first Community Cabinet of the new term is held in the Darling Downs region.

While water is a major concern to the community I know that many people will have other issues they want addressed.

People wanting to make an appointment with a particular minister can obtain deputation forms from Kerry Shine's electorate office, from the Department and Premier and Cabinet by phoning 1800 448 377 or Toowoomba City Council. They can also be downloaded from [www.premier.qld.gov.au](http://www.premier.qld.gov.au)

Of course anyone with an issue can raise issues during the public forum on the Sunday.

On Monday the 4th I will also have the honour of opening a state of the art new training facility in Toowoomba—at the institute of TAFE.

Residents will see first hand the new training facilities for the region's future nurses, aged care assistants, respite centre workers, primary school teacher aides, special needs teacher aides and other professionals in the areas of community services, health and child care.

Redevelopment of the TAFE was a \$24.5 m investment by the Queensland and Federal Governments—with the Queensland Government providing 65% of the funds.

Mr Speaker I can think of no better place for the Minister's—that is, my cabinet—charged with responsibility for the Smart State to meet.

These community cabinets remain incredibly popular, and members just heard from the ministers who are enthusiastically looking forward to it.

**Mr Schwarten:** You beauty!

**Mr BEATTIE:** I want that on the record. The Leader of the House said, 'You beauty!' He will be there.

**Mr Schwarten:** I can't wait.

**Mr BEATTIE:** Indeed, none of us can.