



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 29 November 2006

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Wesley Mission Brisbane, Centenary Celebrations

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.47 am): I congratulate the Wesley Mission Brisbane for their 100 years of providing community services and aged care. I will be launching the Wesley Mission Brisbane centenary celebrations today here at Parliament House. The Wesley Mission Brisbane has been extending a helping hand to Queenslanders in need for almost 100 years and has to be one of our key providers of community services and aged care. I seek leave to incorporate a tribute in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The organisation led the way in the provision of aged care facilities when it built the first residential village-style aged care facility at Wheller Gardens in Chermerside in 1936.

Since then it has developed a range of facilities in Brisbane's north, western and south-western suburbs offering opportunities for independent living, palliative care and accommodation for people living with dementia.

The Mission's programs have also expanded to include disability & employment services, support for youth at risk, young parents, family day care, interpreting services for the deaf, home support for the elderly & emergency relief.

The Govt supports this important work through funding from the Dept of Communities—providing \$3.5M in 2005-2006 for community and disability services.

Wesley Mission Brisbane's plans for growth:

- re-development of Wheller Gardens, including a new retirement community of 350 units.
- Demolition of the existing Wesley House in Ann Street to make way for a 9-storey office building to house new mission activities.
- Significant building program of the Youngcare Apartments at Sinnamon Village to accommodate up to 16 young adults who have multiple sclerosis or other neurological conditions.

The commitment and compassion of your leaders, staff and volunteers is an inspiration to us all.