



Speech by

Hon. Pat Purcell

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Hansard Thursday, 24 May 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Local Ambulance Committees

Hon. PD PURCELL (Bulimba—ALP) (Minister for Emergency Services) (10.02 am): This weekend I will be attending the annual statewide conference of local ambulance committees in Roma. The people of Queensland are cared for by one of the most highly trained and professional ambulance services in the world and, in turn, the Queensland Ambulance Service is supported by dedicated and hard working local ambulance committees. In fact, across the state there are currently 183 local ambulance committees representing more than 1,500 volunteers across Queensland. These volunteers promote awareness of ambulance services and fundraise to buy equipment for their paramedics.

In order to share ideas and strengthen bonds, 300-plus delegates from across the state will gather for this year's conference which is themed 'Partnership across the miles'. The conference will provide those in attendance with the opportunity to discuss issues, share ideas and build partnerships. Just recently I attended a function in my own electorate at the Balmoral Ambulance Station, where the LAC president, Brian Daley, who is also a member of the Emergency Services Advisory Committee, handed over two new Lifepak 12 defibrillators they purchased worth over \$30,000.

While I am in Roma, I will also be taking the opportunity to officially turn the first sod at the site of the new Roma Ambulance Station, which will provide more room and comfort for our staff and provide a larger plant room. It is due to be finished by the end of the year and is part of the Beattie government's commitment to providing Queenslanders with a first-class ambulance service, regardless of where they live.