



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Tuesday, 17 April 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Asia Pacific Screen Awards

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.56 am): Queensland's reputation as an arts and cultural hub continues to grow and I am pleased to announce today that the Smart State is to be the permanent home of a new awards based film event, the Asia Pacific Screen Awards. I seek leave to incorporate details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The Queensland Government has brought together CNN International, UNESCO and the International Federation of Film Producer Associations to create these awards, which will acclaim films and filmmakers from the Asia-Pacific region.

Almost half the world's films now come from Asia-Pacific, with these new awards giving them leverage to join the Oscars, Golden Globes and European film awards.

And with the inaugural ceremony taking place on the Gold Coast on November 13, we have created a major new industry hub here in Queensland.

The initiative will be funded by Queensland Events with the secretariat to be based in Brisbane.

Mr Speaker, I'm sure Members will agree there is immense benefit to Queensland to have a global initiative of this significance headquartered here.

Hollywood generates hundreds of millions of dollars from the Oscars and Golden Globes and these events are of immense value to its film industry.

The Australian film industry will also benefit greatly from the international exposure this initiative will bring and the relationships that will develop between the filmmakers of the region.