



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 18 April 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Anniversary of Queensland's Separation from New South Wales

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.47 am): Mr Speaker, 2009 marks the 150th anniversary of Queensland's separation from New South Wales. The anniversary of this significant milestone is an opportunity to celebrate. A key component will be the exclusive commissioning of a commemorative numberplate. I seek leave to have the details incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The anniversary of this significant milestone is an opportunity to celebrate all that is unique and significant about Queensland.

The Celebrations are designed to engage Queenslanders and inspire them to recognise our past achievements, current opportunities and future directions.

The vision for the celebrations—'*Reflect on our past, imagine our future*'—will drive a year-long program shaped around four themes—history, people, places and future.

It has already captured extensive public interest with more than 300 community leaders across the State already engaged in briefing sessions about the celebrations.

A key component of this program involves the exclusive commissioning of a commemorative number plate for Queensland's local councils.

With this in mind, I have unveiled the specially designed, limited-edition number plates, which will range from QLD 001 to QLD 150.

Featuring the message '2009—Celebrating 150 Years', the plates offer local councils the opportunity to publicly showcase their involvement with the program from now until 2008.

In 2009, councils will auction the commemorative plates and all funds raised will be invested in Queensland's 150th celebrations, activities and events in each community.

To apply for a plate, councils will be asked to complete an expression of interest form.

Following purchase, ownership of the plates will be transferred to the local councils at a cost of \$1,000.

In addition individual plates will be provided to the Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul, the Queensland Cancer Fund, Smith Family and the Wesley Mission to raffle or auction at fundraising events.

The activities and events that shape the year-long celebration offer a unique opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a Queenslanders and I invite every community in Queensland to join in.