



Speech by

Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Hansard Friday, 11 June 2010

MAJESTIC PARK SCOUTS AND VICTOR SCOUT GROUP

Hon. CR DICK (Greenslopes—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations) (7.34 pm): Volunteers devote countless hours of their own time to improve opportunities for others without need for reward. A volunteer's contribution to their community cannot be understated, and their efforts in the Greenslopes electorate are certainly appreciated by both me and the broader Greenslopes community. Volunteering is something that means a lot to me. As many honourable members would know, I spent three years in the Pacific island nation of Tuvalu as an international development volunteer with Australian Volunteers International.

This government recognises the efforts of volunteers and we have included in our Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland plan a target to increase the level of volunteering in the state. One organisation that has numerous volunteers encouraging the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of young Queenslanders is Scouts Queensland. Scouting encourages young Queenslanders to help build a better world. Scouting helps young people gain important skills that hold them in good stead throughout their lives. Those skills help them play a constructive role in society.

Majestic Park Scouts and Victor Scout Group are two such scout groups in the electorate of Greenslopes, and I had the pleasure of attending each of their annual general meetings last month. Scouting is important because it recognises the significance of individuals developing a sense of identity, responsibility for oneself and actions as a citizen, and the importance of adults providing suitable role models for young people. Majestic Park Scouts and Victor Scout Group instill in their members the importance of respect and equality in dealings with all people, irrespective of race, creed or social standing, as well as the importance of mutual support for members within the community to enhance the quality of life for all. They focus on initiative, teamwork and cooperation as well as community service and spirit. The development of leadership skills is a fundamental part of the scouting program, which ultimately helps today's young Queenslanders become tomorrow's leaders.

Open to both boys and girls, each scout group comprises Joey Scouts for ages six to eight years, Cubs for ages seven to 11 years, Scouts for ages 10 to 15 years and Venturers for ages 14 to 18 years. Majestic Park Scouts has 14 Joey Scouts, 54 Cubs, 14 Scouts and 11 Venturers who meet weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights at their scout hall at the corner of Eva and Octantis streets, Coorparoo. Victor Scout Group has six Joey Scouts, 12 Cubs, 13 Scouts and one Venturer who also meet weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights at Victor Street, Holland Park. In addition to weekly meetings, Majestic Park Scouts and Victor Scout Group take part in numerous activities throughout the year.

Both scout groups owe a lot of their ongoing success to their team of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers who take great pride in encouraging our young Queenslanders to reach their full potential. Two group leaders I would especially like to mention are Peter Kinne of Majestic Park Scouts and Bill Beach of Victor Scout Group. Bill, in particular, has spent eight years as group leader and retired from this duty last month. However, he remains actively involved within the group. Peter is also standing down after many years as a group leader. Peter and Bill voluntarily gave up a considerable amount of their spare time as

part of their dedication to developing the young Queenslanders who move through the program into future community leaders. They are committed to ensuring continuity within their scout groups and believe in leadership succession. They will continue on in other capacities in the immediate future to assist other parents.

The commitment of parents is fundamental to the future of these groups through their involvement in leadership roles, fundraising, assisting with activities, excursions, camps and transportation to name a few. The Majestic Park Scouts has 22 leaders and five uniformed helpers, making a total of 27 uniformed parents assisting the group. There are also six parents serving on the committee and in specific project organising roles. I highly commend the work of both groups and thank Bill and Peter for their ongoing work in assisting young people in our state.