



Speech by


## Trevor Watts

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH

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### QUEENSLAND TRAINING AWARDS

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (8.36 pm): I rise today to talk about the Queensland Training Awards. Last Saturday night I was fortunate enough to represent the minister at the Darling Downs and south-west regional finals. I thought the House needed to hear a little bit about the Training Awards. The Training Awards are in their 51st year. I think it is fabulous that we have these awards and that they recognise the efforts of both individuals and organisations and their commitment to ensuring that the vocational training and education of people in Queensland is going forward. Individuals and organisations such as those involved in the Queensland Training Awards will drive the growth of Queensland's four-pillar economy.

The finalists were all involved in tourism, agriculture, resources and construction. It was a pleasure to hear of their different achievements and the different things that they had been involved in. I think we have a strong representation for the finals, which will be held at the Brisbane convention centre in September.

The apprentice of the year was Harry Hauenschild. He has been doing a great deal of work with the customers in the area and was sponsored by the Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE. Robert Geebung, who was sponsored by Busy at Work, was the trainee of the year. It was interesting to hear some of the projects that Robert has been involved in. He is a fly-in fly-out worker, who flies into the Darling Downs region to carry out his work and then he goes back to Rockhampton.

Bonnie Sargood, from the Academy of Makeup, was the vocational student of the year. She had some particular achievements in setting up and doing her training and made a really good application to be considered for an award. I think she will be a strong contender at the state finals. The school based apprentice of the year was Stacey-Lee Kelly. She had been training through an organisation that operates in Toowoomba called Downs Group Training, which sponsors a lot of different trainees.

I am sorry that my time has run out, but I am sure members will hear the names at the finals when they are held in September at the convention centre.