



Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 17 July 2015

ADJOURNMENT

Trade Skills Centre; Primary Schools, Nursing Service

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (12.07 am): Mr Speaker, I rise tonight to speak about two important benefits that the state budget we have debated this week will bring to the Woodridge electorate. The state Labor budget passed by the parliament tonight is a budget about jobs. Creating jobs for the Queenslanders that were left stranded by the former Newman LNP government. Creating opportunities for communities like Woodridge by ensuring there are education and training programs operating and available in our community. Through these essential measures we are laying the groundwork that will ensure Queenslanders get back to work. There will be a number of projects delivered in Woodridge as a consequence of the 2015 state budget that will create a more dynamic local economy and a safer place to live.

During the 2015 state election I promised to focus on delivering better education, training and employment opportunities for the people of Woodridge. I am delighted that the Palaszczuk Labor government will deliver a \$2.1 million Trade Skills Centre which will be located at Woodridge State High School. Students from Logan City Special School and Browns Plains State High school will also be able to enrol in courses at the Trade Skills Centre. This is excellent news for Woodridge teenagers, allowing them to develop real world skills before finishing school. The Trade Skills Centre will offer courses in areas that will support our community into the future. These will include courses in automotive engineering, allowing for a career in mechanics. It will also provide courses in transport and logistics. We are a government that supports our young people to learn trades and provides them with those opportunities while still in school. We want to give our young people the opportunity to set their career path while they are at school, and we will provide them with the means to do so.

I am also proud that, as a consequence of the Labor state budget, the primary school aged nursing service will first be provided in electorates like Woodridge before being rolled out statewide. This service will kick off in the city of Logan and will provide vision, hearing and nutrition screening to ensure kids are supported and ready for school. This was a service dismantled by the LNP government, and I am proud to be the Labor Minister for Health responsible for re-establishing and expanding it.

It is critical that, when our kids begin school, parents can have the confidence that they are sending them off fit and healthy, confident of their ability to excel. That is what I am focused on as the state member for Woodridge. Delivering local outcomes for my community that will see our children excel is a priority for me. I look forward to seeing these projects develop in the electorate and to continue to work with the local Woodridge community and my fellow government members as we continue to deliver results for our local communities and for Queensland.