



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 28 October 2015

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (2.19 pm): Today the Palaszczuk government throws its support behind Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in Queensland women. Around 2,900 new cases are diagnosed in Queensland each year. That is why cancer screening is available for all Queensland women as part of the BreastScreen Australia cervical screening and bowel cancer screening programs. While we know regular check-ups are the most effective method of intervention, we know not all women participate as regularly as recommended. BreastScreen Queensland has gone from strength to strength, carrying out more than three million mammograms and 200,000 assessments. There are over 200 locations across Queensland, including mobile vans for women in rural and remote areas. That is why Pink Ribbon Day and Breast Cancer Awareness Month are important events.

It is a priority of the Palaszczuk government to support organisations that deliver cancer screening and support. That is why this year we announced that the Advanced Breast Cancer Group would receive \$770,000 in funding to support women with breast and gynaecological cancers. This group offers a unique service that connects women throughout Queensland and helps them to manage their treatment. They provide vital support to women in the advanced stages of cancer. I was proud to restore funding to this group which, regrettably, was cut by the former LNP government. Not only did we restore funding, we will be providing that funding over the next three years, delivering certainty for the Advanced Breast Cancer Group along with many other community based health organisations. The Palaszczuk government is making sure that all Queensland women have the ability to access free services to maintain their breast health.