



Speech By  
**Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 July 2015

## ADJOURNMENT

### CAN Awards; Queensland Music Festival

 **Ms GRACE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (10.50 pm): It was a pleasure to attend the Community Community Action Network Awards—or the CAN Awards, as they are known—which was held at the New Farm Neighbourhood Centre last week. Now in its 18th year, the CAN Awards recognise and celebrate people, businesses and community groups making a positive difference in the inner city of Brisbane. The CAN Awards are one of the leading events that Community stage in New Farm each year and it is always great to see so many of the locals being recognised for their selfless acts.

I was proud to be asked by the New Farm Neighbourhood Centre to present three of these awards: the LGBTIQ award, the Closing the Gap award and the Accessibility for All award. Firstly, I want to congratulate all the nominees and winners. I am so glad that I was not put in the precarious position of choosing who takes home these awards because, as far as I am concerned, they were all winners. However, I would particularly like to congratulate Phil Browne, who took out the LGBTIQ award, which celebrates the leaders and helpers in our inner-city LGBTIQ community. I also congratulate the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health for its Work It Out program, which took out the Closing the Gap award. This award recognises the outstanding achievements in improving the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the areas of health, education and housing or community access. The final award that I presented was the Accessibility for All award, which was taken out by Terry Fitzpatrick, a truly deserving winner. This award highlights inclusive services, practices or design principles that create spaces and places that everyone can be part of.

The New Farm Neighbourhood Centre was established in 1986—almost 30 years ago—and since that time it has been working with the community towards social justice, diversity and inclusion. Some of the services on offer are free help with housing and legal issues and it also provides a wide range of sporting and social activities in the area. The centre also offers an open house with office facilities. It even has its own community garden. The New Farm Neighbourhood Centre truly offers a service that my community in the electorate of Brisbane Central simply cannot be without. I thank Fiona Hunt, the coordinator of the New Farm Neighbourhood Centre, and the volunteer staff for their tireless work and contribution not only to the CAN Awards but also to the centre itself. I say to them: well done on a good job.

I also remind members that the Queensland Music Festival will be held from 17 July to 2 August. There will be musical events held throughout Queensland. I was lucky enough to be at the launch of the Queensland Music Festival at the Triffid in Teneriffe in the great electorate of Brisbane Central. There will be 17 days of events. One of the events that I want to highlight is the Keys to the City event, which involves pods of pianos that will pop up across 40 locations in Brisbane. People can play the piano. Whether that be by playing *Chopsticks*, Chopin or *Crocodile Rock*, people can be a star for the day. I say to everyone to enjoy the Queensland Music Festival.