



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**

**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Advance Queensland Innovation Partnerships**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Science and Innovation) (2.26 pm): It gives me great pleasure to update the House on our \$180 million Advance Queensland initiative. Last month, the Premier launched the Advance Queensland Innovation Partnerships—a \$25 million funding program that will further encourage collaboration between industry, universities and research organisations. This program seeks to accelerate the development of emerging industries or technologies that could provide existing key industries in Queensland with a competitive edge in global markets. The focus will be on supporting projects that address issues in priority areas, such as agriculture, engineering, climate change, clean energy, biotechnology and advanced manufacturing. We want to help fast-track the translation of great ideas into viable products or services that will help build our state's reputation as a global innovation hub and gateway into markets in the Asia Pacific.

Under this program, universities and research organisations can apply for grants of up to \$1.5 million for projects with industry partners. The innovation partnerships will leverage on investment that applicants have already secured. This Advance Queensland initiative will encourage local businesses and multinational corporations to work with Queensland based research organisations to help translate innovative ideas into new products, services or business models.

The international evidence shows that collaboration between businesses, government and researchers increases the likelihood of successful innovation by more than 70 per cent. That is why we have introduced a further Advance Queensland program—the Global Partnership Awards—to support our best and brightest minds to create international partnerships and connect our start-up system with leading entrepreneurs. The Global Partnership Awards have two main categories. The first is the Innovation and Market Insight Program, supporting Queensland start-ups, business leaders, investors and support organisations to undertake accelerated learning by engaging with world-leading companies, venture capital and angel investors, accelerator programs and start-up systems. It will see high-profile entrepreneurs and investors in residence come to Queensland to engage with and mentor local businesses and investors. It provides enhanced opportunities for emerging or ambitious entrepreneurs to visit overseas markets and innovation hotspots.

The second major category of the Global Partnership Awards is the International Innovation Partnerships Program, which supports long-term strategic relationships with leading global centres of research or innovative companies. The Queensland Creative Entrepreneurship Program partnership with YouTube announced by the Deputy Premier last month is the first new collaboration under the program. This partnership between the Queensland government and YouTube, supported by QUT, Griffith University and Screen Queensland, aims to stimulate Queensland's creative entrepreneurs. We will also invest jointly with leading global research institutions or universities to support collaborative R&D. Advance Queensland is setting a course to reinvigorate our state's economy and it is creating jobs now and jobs for the future.