



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**

**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 27 October 2015

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Skilling Queenslanders for Work**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (10.43 am): I would like to update the House about the rollout of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative—a program that is supporting training and job creation right across the state. From tourism training in Surfers Paradise to the marine and environment management training program in Cairns, thousands of Queenslanders are getting opportunities to get new experiences and build new skills.

In Central Queensland in the great town of Gladstone last week I saw firsthand some of the great programs servicing Central Queensland. With the member for Gladstone, we visited the Gladstone PCYC to hear about the 40 jobseekers who will be gaining support and valuable experience to gain a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care or a Certificate III in Education Support. This training not only provides good opportunities for those trainees but also seeks to ensure Queensland communities have a skilled and talented workforce to fill such a vital role—the care of our young people. It was wonderful to hear from the Gladstone PCYC that not only will they be providing the training but also they hope to be able to provide immediate jobs at the completion of that training in their own before- and after-school care and vacation care that the PCYC run.

We also visited the Gladstone site of Energy Skills Queensland, where job training is being delivered for up to 60 jobseekers to help them gain certificates in hospitality, training and business. We also saw the practical set-up for the scaffolding training program, giving the hands-on training required to get into that part of the construction industry. It was great to hear the partner with Energy Skills Queensland delivering that scaffolding training say that they had partnered with 23 other businesses who are wanting skilled workers in scaffolding. They are great job opportunities in a region that is looking to diversify and create employment opportunities for those who are moving out of the resource sector.

We support these kinds of programs because that is what Labor governments believe in—providing the opportunity for all Queenslanders to access training and skills to get into the workforce, build their careers, and build strong and sustainable communities. I take this opportunity to remind all members of the House that the next round of Skilling Queenslanders for Work applications close on 12 November. I encourage members to work with their local community organisations and training providers as we continue to support opportunities for Queenslanders to build careers in communities right across the state.