



Speech By Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Logan House Fire Support Network; Chalmers, Mr J

Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (11.41 pm): House fires are a tragedy that have impacted too many families in the city of Logan. They have a devastating impact not just on the property destroyed but also on those lives left behind, lives often changed forever. Tonight I want to acknowledge and thank two local champions, Louie and Christine Naumovski, who co-founded the Logan House Fire Support Network. The network has worked hard to provide help to local families who have been devastated by house fires to ensure that no family feels isolated, alone and lost in their time of need.

Earlier this year the network asked me for a decommissioned ambulance to help them better support fire victims. I am pleased to be able to advise the House that on 15 July this year I delivered a retired ambulance to the network. Louie Naumovski told me that the donation would help them to help victims of house fires more efficiently by being able to carry emergency items that people need in the immediate aftermath of a fire. The vehicle will allow families impacted by a house fire to be shielded from the scene and allow affected families to contact extended family members, insurance providers and others from the comfort of the vehicle.

I have spoken in the past about the strong sense of community in the electorate of Woodridge and the city of Logan, and this is a very real and tangible example of that sense of community. I would like to place on the record my thanks to the mighty Queensland Ambulance Service for continuing their strong record of donating retired ambulances to charitable organisations. I would also like to thank Shane, Tiffani and Ashley Drew of Drew's Sign It, a great Logan business, for the sign-writing and artwork they donated for the vehicle, as well as other network sponsors, Quell, Logan Funerals and the Mayor of Logan, Councillor Luke Smith, and the Logan City Council, which covered the registration costs for the vehicle. Most importantly, I would like to thank Louie, Christine and the entire Logan House Fire Support Network for the outstanding community support they provide.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jim Chalmers MP on his re-election as the federal member for Rankin. Jim made an outstanding contribution to the last federal parliament and will continue to hold the Turnbull government to account, standing up to their attacks on Medicare and public hospitals, their tax breaks for multinational corporations and the deregulation of higher education. I was very pleased to see Jim appointed to the shadow ministry as the federal shadow minister for finance. I know that in Jim Chalmers the people of Woodridge and the electors of Rankin will have years of effective federal representation ahead of them. Congratulations, Jim.