




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 10 November 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Ikea Logan

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (7.06 pm): Tonight it is my time to shine the spotlight on an important state asset. I speak, of course, of Ikea Logan based at Slacks Creek in the electorate of Woodridge.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DICK: I thank the members opposite for their support. I am sure even they would not sell an important asset like Ikea Logan. Last year Ikea Logan was recognised as one of the top five Ikea stores in the world, alongside stores in Austria, Poland, the Netherlands and China. It was my pleasure to join the staff of Ikea Logan and other community leaders recently at Ikea Logan's 10th birthday celebrations. Ikea Logan is an important employer in Woodridge and in the City of Logan. It has conscientiously given back to the Logan community during its 10 years of operation.

Confidently led by store manager Renea Robson, and previous store managers Richard Harries and Katerina Bohlin, Ikea Logan employs more than 360 people. More than 70 per cent of the employees hail from Logan and from surrounding Brisbane suburbs. About a quarter of all co-workers at the store are 24 years or younger, making it the first workplace for many young Woodridge and Logan residents. Dozens of local residents have gone on to carve a career there. In fact, 50 of the store's staff have served there for more than a decade, together achieving more than 600 years of combined service.

Among them is Cornubia local Michelle Binch, who has served for 29 years in the Ikea Springwood and then the Ikea Logan restaurant, which has turned out more than 18 million meatballs in that period. Michelle is supported by Teresa Chuchla, who has served in the store for 14 years; Linda Steer, who has worked there for 12 years; and Yolanda Bachiller, who has worked there for eight years—all in the restaurant. I was delighted to meet Michelle, Teresa, Linda and Yolanda at the 10th birthday celebrations.

Ikea Logan has also developed a number of important community partnerships in the Woodridge electorate including at nearby Mabel Park State School through the Beacon Foundation. Of the 30 participants in this program, more than half have been recruited by the store. Ikea Logan also contributes to the government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work program, with half of the 30 participants in this program being recruited by this store. Tonight I congratulate Ikea Logan and all of its 360 co-workers for the decade-long contribution they have made to the electorate of Woodridge and the City of Logan and reiterate my support for this important business as it powers into its second decade.

I also wish to quickly acknowledge the work of Sandra Franklin, who was formally recognised at last week's Heart Foundation breakfast here at Parliament House. Sandra helps organise a working group in the electorate of Woodridge—the Woodridge Wanderers. I was delighted to see her dedication

to the cause recognised with a national and state Golden Shoe Award. I would like to extend my congratulations to Sandra and to thank her and the Woodridge Wanderers for their efforts in keeping Woodridge residents healthy.