



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGERTER**

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Small Business, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Program**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algerter—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (10.06 am): The Palaszczuk government knows how vital small business is to the Queensland economy. That is why we are supporting small business to innovate through our \$405 million whole-of-government Advance Queensland initiative. One program in particular is putting critical technical expertise directly into small businesses to help them take their innovative ideas and turn them into tangible commercial outcomes. This program is the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships program—an \$8 million program that is all about building collaboration between our talented researchers and Queensland small businesses. Recently I approved funding under round 3 of the Advance Queensland Knowledge Transfer Partnerships program to seven small businesses. Each of these enterprises will receive up to \$50,000 to employ a top university graduate who will work on an innovative project to help their business grow. The Knowledge Transfer Partnerships program works by funding up to two-thirds of the cost of bringing an honours, masters or PhD level university graduate into a business to work on an innovative project.

Like A Photon Creative, one of the round 3 recipients, is a content creation company specialising in the development of content for children. It is employing a graduate to help develop and implement an app for children that delivers books, videos and games. I recently visited Like A Photon, and business owners Kristen Souvlis and Nadine Bates were vocal in their praise for the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships program. With their KTP funding they have employed a graduate from Griffith University to help grow their dynamic and diverse content creation business. I was fortunate enough to get a sneak peek at some of the work this incredibly creative company is producing. It is nothing short of amazing and it is happening right here in Queensland. Most importantly, with the help of Advance Queensland funding, this Queensland small business is committed to staying in our state and employing locals while continuing to compete in global markets. Like A Photon has already provided content for *Sesame Street* and early next year will release *Balloon Barnyard*, an animation series commissioned by Disney Australia which I am sure will be a great success.

Other round 3 grants will support innovation across the health, mining, energy and waste disposal sectors. So far the Palaszczuk government has provided KTP program funding to 38 innovative small businesses and seven universities. This investment is having an immediate impact on small businesses right around the state and helping them to grow and employ into the future. Put simply, the KTP program is helping to spur innovation and create jobs now and jobs for the future.