




Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Pine Rivers Electorate, Employment Expo

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.45 pm): The Palaszczuk government is committed to delivering jobs in Queensland. It is my No. 1 priority in the electorate. So far since the election we have seen the creation of over 60,000 jobs. That is in stark contrast to the tens of thousands of jobs we saw savagely cut at the hands of those opposite.

Investing in skills and training is a key contrast between the LNP and Labor in government. Ours is a government that has set up and reinstated Skilling Queenslanders for Work—a program that delivers \$8 back into the economy for every dollar invested in it. We are also investing in schools and education facilities. The restoration of TAFE last year has moved to restore confidence in capacity in the TAFE system.

I appreciate the dignity that comes with work. I appreciate that many people in my electorate are still doing it tough. They are still looking for work after the decimation of jobs and employment from those opposite. That is why it was so important for me to hold an expo in conjunction with Employment Outcomes in my community.

The Real Deal Pine Rivers Employment Expo was an opportunity for the community to come together and learn about and discuss resumes, job active services, training services with employer stalls, workshops and job opportunities. All told we had over 40 employer stalls at the expo. We had over 20 jobs that were on offer for the day. We had 14 different providers that were offering work experience to attendees. We had a number of sponsors who helped out with food and drink donations. We had many activities as well. We actually looked outside the employment area. The graffiti competition was very well taken up. There were rave reviews about that.

In terms of donation assistance we had approximately 50 different community groups and donors who made this a success. I would like to particularly acknowledge, however, the work that has been done in terms of outcomes from this event. It was not just training providers, employers and community groups that came together; we had over 250 people through on the day. We had 150 people register interest in a particular job. We have arranged over 30 job interviews. Seven people have started work because of the expo. We have another five places to fill in the next few weeks.

Employment Outcomes is a fantastic local business that appreciates that many in our community, especially young people, need more than a job or an apprenticeship in our community. Employment Outcomes go far beyond that. I would like to acknowledge Gerry Lister and her team, particularly Lachlan Young, for putting their hearts into making this forum a success and being out there every day getting young people into work, often through difficult circumstances. I thank them.

My No. 1 priority for Pine Rivers is jobs. I am so appreciative of the work that our amazing community can do when we have business, training organisations and government working together.