




Speech By
Verity Barton

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 25 February 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Grummitt, Councillor M

 **Miss BARTON** (Broadwater—LNP) (6.47 pm): On 19 March Queenslanders will have an opportunity to make a decision about who leads their cities and who leads their communities right across this state. On 19 March Margaret Grummitt, the councillor for Division 4 in my electorate, will be hanging up the boots, so to speak, and will be retiring from the Gold Coast City Council after 12 distinguished years serving the Labrador community. Tonight I want to take the opportunity to pay tribute to her, thank her for her service and wish her all of the very best for her retirement. As all members of the parliament from the Gold Coast would know, Margaret is a very strong advocate for her community. She has served, as I said, on the Gold Coast City Council for 12 years and Margaret is so passionate about community service that she even stood as the National Party candidate for the seat that I hold in the 2004 state election. In addition to her service on the Gold Coast City Council of 12 years Margaret also served the people of Queensland as a Queensland police officer for 30 years, and I think that that kind of service particularly also deserves recognition.

During her time as a QPS officer Margaret not only had a particular focus on schoolies in the 1990s but also spent a lot of time working with and helping victims of domestic violence through her work at the Southport Courthouse. Margaret has also spent a lot of time supporting community organisations such as the Rotary club, the University of the Third Age and the Men's Shed Labrador. I know that, although Margaret's time in public life comes to an end on 19 March, she will very much continue to be a strong advocate for and servant of the community. I know that Margaret has a great number of projects that she intends to focus on over the next few years and I know that she will continue to be an incredibly strong advocate. One of the things that Margaret will be doing over the next few years is serving the Filipino community in Queensland as Queensland's Honorary Consul. I know that that is a role that Margaret is particularly enthusiastic about and is looking forward to serving in.

As I said, Margaret has been a servant of the community for 12 years. I know that Noel, her husband, is very much looking forward to having Margaret back at home on the weekends. I also acknowledge Noel and the work that he has done in supporting Margaret and her work in the community. Whomever succeeds Margaret Grummitt in division 4 on 19 March has incredibly big shoes to fill as they continue to be a servant of and an advocate for the Labrador community. I pay tribute to Margaret, thank her for her service and wish her all the very best in what I think is termed her retirement but probably will not be. I wish Margaret, Noel, their children and their grandchildren all the best as she enjoys a few quieter years to come.