




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Mount Ommaney Electorate, Small Business Awards

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (2.22 pm): Small business is booming in Mount Ommaney. Since the beginning of the year I have been working closely with the Centenary & Districts Chamber of Commerce. I would like to give a shout-out to Keith, Dan, Dave and the whole team because they have been doing a fantastic job this year undertaking a revitalisation of the chamber and reinvigorating its membership base. It has been a privilege to be part of it, but that is just the start.

On 20 November this year the chamber and I will be hosting the Small Business Awards. We are excited that we are going to be joined by the small business minister, Shannon Fentiman, to celebrate the amazing array of small businesses in the electorate of Mount Ommaney. The awards will be distributed according to a popular vote. I spoke to my electorate staff earlier today and they told me that the local community is right on board. At last count we have had over 600 nominations from locals keen to nominate fantastic local small businesses.

I had a conversation with the Minister for Innovation, Kate Jones, a little while ago. She said to me, 'What's going on in Mount Ommaney? Barely a week goes by that we do not get an application for innovation funding from the Mount Ommaney electorate.'

Ms Jones: A great local member.

Ms PUGH: I take that interjection from the minister. I am beyond proud to help and promote small business. I would like to take this opportunity to tell the House about some of the innovative small businesses in Mount Ommaney, some of the nominees for the upcoming awards. There is Oz Wagtails, which is a unique doggy day care. If, like the member for Aspley, members are not an actual parent but have a fur baby that likes to dig up their backyard, they can take them to Oz Wagtails and save their backyard landscaping. We are also home to the best burgers in Brisbane. Do not just take my word for it. That is according to Triple M; Ed and Marto gave them the award for the best burger in Brisbane. They told me that they are yet to win a local award; they are keen to scoop the pool this year.

We are also home to White Lies microbrewery. Tomorrow they will celebrate their second birthday and I will be there to have a drink with them. I am very excited about that. Also we have Tudor School Uniforms. They are unique because they make their uniforms for local schools like Middle Park State School, where my little ones go, right here in Australia. They use Australian fabric—Australian made and Australian owned.

We also have Monier Fresh. I reckon it is one of the best local fruit shops around and Nathan has the best baklava in the whole of Brisbane. We also have Hydrox Technologies. These guys are kicking goals in the agribusiness space. They have invented a solar shrink plastic which helps farmers to look after their crops. It shrinks tight in the sun. It is amazing. They have just been given an Advance Queensland grant. Some of these businesses have already applied for funds. I say to all the small businesses in Mount Ommaney that if they have not done so yet, have a meeting with me. I would love to tell them about what they can get.