




Speech By
Scott Stewart

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

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ADJOURNMENT

Regional Sitzings of Parliament, Townsville

 **Mr STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (4.46 pm): At the beginning of this sitting week I welcomed all members to God's country and now it is time to say farewell. Farewell from God's country, the home of the Cowboys and the home of the Townsville Fire—the three-time championship winners. Premier, it was great to announce yesterday that \$1 million sponsorship. Those girls were absolutely ecstatic.

Thank you, Premier, for trusting Townsville in bringing parliament to Townsville. It was absolutely brilliant. I have been able to talk with many of the students who have come through and a lot of the visitors as well. As a member of government, it was great to reinforce our existing infrastructure build that we are investing in, whether it be the stadium, the pipeline or the port channel widening—those big projects. It was also great to retell our stories about local job creation, where more teachers, doctors and nurses are being employed to provide the great services they do in and around and through our communities. It was great to talk about the 50 extra police we have already and another 53 by the end of 2020. It was also great to hear about the two helicopters that are ready for the police to use whenever they need them.

The students who came through heard a real plan for their future. They heard about more jobs. They heard about the infrastructure builds that we have on the horizon, on the radar and rapidly approaching. They also heard about the \$1 million for the Townsville Fire which was absolutely brilliant. Our students know that the future in Townsville looks bright. There is a hydrogen future for them. There is a clear jobs pathway for them. This is about keeping our kids in this city because they know they have a real career path and they know that they can get good, long-term, sustainable jobs right here in their community.

I also take this opportunity to thank all members who came to Townsville and any staff you might have brought. Thank you. You have spent a week away from your families doing the great work in this House over the last week. I thank everyone on both sides of the House and the crossbenchers for everything you have done.

I also thank our parliamentary support staff. Mr Clerk, thank you again for all of your work in setting this up. I thank the police, the EOs, our caterers—even Booyah who came in to do the coffee—Hansard, IT services and all of our parliamentary support staff. I thank the Townsville community who came along at various times and have supported this all the way through. I do not think they quite knew what they were in for until we arrived here. I think they have a much better understanding now.

The best thing is that I was able to show off my great city. We turned on the great weather. We have been doing it tough, and every cup of coffee and every meal you bought this week helps my community recover.