




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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ADJOURNMENT

Redlands Electorate, Coronavirus

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (10.25 pm): In these unprecedented times, I place on record my thanks to our Redlands community in how they have responded to this crisis across every facet of how we live daily. The stats sit today at 1,024 Queenslanders, with only 20 coming from the Redlands. I think that Queensland Health's shift to more detailed statistics has been great, particularly for regions like Redlands. I put on record my thanks to our amazing frontline staff at the Redland Hospital under the stewardship of Susan Freidenberg. The member for Capalaba and I look forward this coming Friday to shouting coffees to all of our frontline staff. Our GPs who are deploying flu vaccinations across the board are doing an amazing job. Our paramedics as well—and I had them out to my own house with my mum a week and a half ago—do a fantastic job on the front line. Thank you to all of our frontline staff, including our police who have also been doing a terrific job, particularly across our islands. The Water Police have been doing an incredible job.

In the education space I thank our principals, teachers, teacher aides, support staff and parents. It is a new paradigm that we are in and everybody is coming together in a calm and patient way to ensure that we continue the education journey for our students. That has been really lovely to see. Even though there have been hiccups, I think we are all getting on with the job of making sure that our children keep learning. In the business space, I thank our chamber of commerce that has been bringing together all of our business entities, small to large, in the Redlands. They have been doing a terrific job in sharing information which is really important in being able to direct them to the services they need to help them survive this coronavirus crisis, see a way to recovery and a journey to the end of this, particularly across the five islands within the Redlands electorate. I want to thank the small businesses that have mobilised so rapidly within days to ensure that food security was provided to our islanders. That has been fantastic. A shout-out to the Jones Group, to Skippy's, to Mick and to Fresh Salads at Victoria Point as they all have done a great job with the simple objective of making sure our islanders get the food delivery they need.

In terms of transport, there are not many Queenslanders who can say they have to travel to and from the mainland by ferry to get to those essential services. Our captains and crews have been doing an amazing job. I give a huge shout-out to the SeaLink team. In terms of our community groups, Redlands has seen one of the biggest uptakes in Care Army subscription. I thank everybody who has bought into the Care Army. It is a fantastic job that you are doing to ensure that we are a strong community. I thank our Bay Island Community Services Group as they are doing a great job, the Centre for Women & Co and Running Wild to name but a few of the community groups. I think everybody in this chamber has seen their communities mobilise to show the strength that Queenslanders bring in times of crisis. I am very proud to represent Redlands.