



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 August 2020

## ADJOURNMENT

### **Morayfield Electorate; Small Business COVID-19 Adaptation Grant Program**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (6.11 pm): For many years now I have been running a very regular coffee catch-up and business networking event for small businesses in the Morayfield electorate. Every couple of months, except during COVID, I catch up with small businesses and talk about what small businesses are doing with networking, innovating, growing their businesses and creating more jobs in our community.

At the most recent networking event that I held—COVID-safe plan in place—a number of businesses told me how tough the COVID-19 pandemic had been on their business but how they had hope for the future and were grateful for the support of the Palaszczuk government. I particularly highlight a number of examples where small businesses in the Caboolture and Morayfield area received some support from the Palaszczuk government during the COVID-19 pandemic, not only to support their business and help pay some bills but, more importantly, to keep people employed. Of course, we know that that is very important.

In the Caboolture-Morayfield area, 41 businesses received almost \$360,000 in the Palaszczuk government's small business COVID-19 adaptation grants. That is a significant injection of support in our community. I know that a number of businesses are extremely grateful. In fact, just last week I had the opportunity to catch up with a number of them. I know that Richard and Sharon from Fitness n Motion at Morayfield are really grateful for the support. That funding has helped them not only continue to meet the expenses they have incurred as a business during the COVID-19 pandemic but also to invest in the COVID-safe resources they need to continue trading.

Troy and Kelly from Northside Embroidery also received one of the small business adaptation grants. Pleasingly, the number of orders they are receiving is increasing and they are very pleased that the community and, more broadly, Queenslanders and Australians are supporting their business. Justin from Eye Envy Optometrist at the Morayfield Shopping Centre is grateful for the grant he received and for support from the local community. He said that he has been very busy and that this has been one of the busiest Julys he has had in a number of years. Phil from Infinity Martial Arts bore the brunt of it because he had to close down his martial arts school, but he has reopened. He is trading again and people are coming back. All in all, well done to our small businesses. I wish them well.