



Speech By Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

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ADJOURNMENT

Mansfield Electorate, Small Business

Ms McMILLAN (Mansfield—ALP) (7.22 pm): Small businesses are the backbone of our local community, so I am delighted that the Palaszczuk government celebrates small businesses in May every year. This month it was a pleasure to have the small business minister, the Hon. Di Farmer MP, visit and listen to some of our small business owners' successes and challenges during the past two years.

Hosted by Vince Dickson, owner of the very popular Cenzo's Cafe and Bar in Upper Mount Gravatt, the minister heard from: Raymond Mak from Accounting Intelligence; director Larissa McCrea from Portable Room Solutions; LESI music education owner, Rachel Zheng; CEO of Fun Over 50 Holidays, Toni Brennan; Jasmine Kaur and Asma Sultana from Migration Avenue; Computer Alliance's Troy Radloff; and Toni Boydston from George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals at Mount Gravatt.

These diverse small businesses are reflective of the growing Mansfield electorate community that has a unique range of small business hubs where locals go to shop and catch up with family and friends. These hubs include Mount Gravatt Central, Lumley Street, Aminya Street, Wishart Shopping Village, Civic Fair Shopping Centre and Palmdale Shopping Centre. New hubs at Rochedale Village Shopping Centre and Rochedale Central also join our unique cluster of business networks. We are also fortunate to have the infamous Garden City, an ever-evolving institution supporting small, medium and large businesses.

It was also a pleasure to attend Minister Farmer's small business reception at Parliament House earlier this month with David Wu and Diana Miao. David and Diana's diverse small businesses are part of the growing Asian business community that straddles across the Mansfield and neighbouring electorates of Toohey and Stretton, led by my esteemed colleagues Peter Russo MP and James Martin MP. I was also honoured to present my May Business of the Month Award to Wishart small business Portable Room Solutions. Directors Daniel and Larissa McCrea have created a unique tiny house model which is one of many solutions to address our housing shortage that the recently booted LNP government has neglected to address across our nation for a very long time.

Finally, I acknowledge the Women Supporting Women in Business Network that I established in 2018. This network is a wonderful opportunity for like-minded and astute local businesswomen to discuss issues affecting their businesses in a fun and supportive environment. I look forward to the Palaszczuk government working with the new federal Labor government to support the needs of our local small businesses and, in particular, supporting women as key decision-makers and leaders in these businesses in my community.