




Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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ADJOURNMENT

Pine Rivers Electorate, Small Business Awards

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (6.11 pm): I am excited to rise tonight and talk about the 2023 Pine Rivers Small Business Awards, nominations for which have just recently opened. I am calling on all of our small businesses in Pine Rivers to get involved in this exciting opportunity. This year's awards are starting to hit their strides.

Nominations are now open and our awards will be held in Small Business Month. Despite only having the awards late last year, we are backing up. Some businesses are saying that they think it might be a bit too soon. I think it is never too soon to recognise the great contributions that our small businesses make in the community of Pine Rivers.

It is a great way for us to recognise and celebrate all of the wonderful small businesses that have their home in our community. All locals can get involved by nominating their favourite small business for an award. Nominations opened on 6 March and close on 31 March. The businesses with the most nominations in their category progress through to the next round. It is imperative that businesses encourage their customers to get nominating now.

The categories in this year's awards include: health and fitness; trade and services; beauty and hairdressing; cafes, bars and restaurants; retail and sales; and—this year at the encouragement of the member for Macalister we have new category—early childhood education. We are encouraging nominations for the new category. Community members can certainly nominate more than one small business and across a number of categories. At the close of nominations, those with the most nominations will then progress on to the finals. The finalist voting opens on 3 April and closes on 21 April at 12 pm. The awards are determined through popular choice. It is imperative that we get behind our great local businesses.

As I said, the awards coincide with Small Business Month. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our wonderful small business minister, Minister Di Farmer, to our community to provide the finalists and winners with their accolades.

Last year's wonderful small business category winners included Cloud Radiology, Pulse Vet Warner, 2 Chefs and a Cupcake, Twigs Toy Boutique, Simply Elegant and Mads Creation. There are an abundance of wonderful small businesses across our community. Already we have seen 784 nominations for the outstanding small businesses in our community. I encourage all locals to jump onto my social media pages and get the details so they can nominate their small businesses and let the community know what fantastic services dedicated small business owners and staff members are providing to our community each and every day.