




Speech By  
**Peter Russo**  
**MEMBER FOR TOOHEY**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Hiker Brewing Co.

 **Mr RUSSO** (Toohey—ALP) (7.21 pm): I celebrated business month in my electorate. I recently had the pleasure of visiting the recently opened Hiker Brewing Co. in Salisbury with Minister Farmer, the Minister for Training and Skills Development. Co-founders Phil Sharp and Daniel Venema welcomed us to their premises where they envision bringing the community together while serving exceptional beers. In just three months, Hiker is well on the way to achieving this goal. Craft beer enthusiasts from across Brisbane and locals have warmly embraced Hiker, which is located near Toohey Forest.

This is not only a good local story about craft beer enthusiasts who are achieving great things. The brewery has gained a reputation for its topnotch beers and inviting atmosphere, which I can attest to. They have big plans moving forward, and their business plan is to build a true community space that locals can enjoy. However, this is not just a good local story. This is a great success story. One of the co-founders, Phil Sharp, is a graduate of TAFE's Certificate III in Food Processing (Brewing). Phil holds the distinction of being the first graduate from this course to open a craft brewery. The course Phil completed is run through our world-class Queensland TAFE and is a part of the Palaszczuk government's Queensland's Craft Brewing Strategy.

In 2018, craft brewing was identified as an emerging, fast growing sector of the manufacturing industry—one that would generate jobs and contribute to economic growth. Demonstrating the government's tangible support for the industry, TAFE Queensland developed a course for craft brewers to meet an identified shortfall of brewing skills. Phil is a compelling advocate for the TAFE course, with Hiker dedicating a tap at their brewery to serve Froth Rookies beers, a beer produced by TAFE students. This initiative allows TAFE students to showcase beers they create to their families and friends.

Hiker Brewing achieved recent success at the Royal Queensland Beer Awards, where they received five medals—one gold, three silver, and one bronze. This speaks to the quality of their beers. Notably, their light Scottish ale named Wee Little! earned the gold medal. It is worth mentioning that Wee Little! was the first beer brewed at their brew house and is a testament to their skill and passion for their craft.