



## Speech By Rob Molhoek

## **MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT**

Record of Proceedings, 12 September 2023

## **ADJOURNMENT**

## **Common Ground Gold Coast**

Mr MOLHOEK (Southport—LNP) (7.00 pm): Last sitting week it was my honour to host 180 guests in the Premier's Hall as the chair of Common Ground Gold Coast for a special fundraising event. I particularly want to thank Mark McCrindle, our guest speaker from McCrindle Research. I especially want to acknowledge Trisha Harris and James Frizelle from the James Frizelle Charitable Foundation, who made a contribution on the night of \$2 million towards the establishment of Common Ground Gold Coast. The night raised just over \$2 million. Another \$37,000 was raised from the sale of dinner tickets and raffle tickets throughout the course of the evening.

I particularly want to acknowledge my fellow board members: Jackson Hills from Q Shelter; Sheila Ponting from The Marketing Lab; Tony Cossor from Life Connect; Barry Lee from Dark Horse Consulting; Matt Jutsum and his partner, Shannon, from Jutsum Advisory; Ryan O'Leary from QCOSS; and Dianne and David Kozik from St John's Crisis Centre.

I also want to say a special thanks to the board of Common Ground Queensland who have supported the Gold Coast bid for Common Ground, especially Peter Pearce, the former chair of Common Ground Queensland and currently a director and also one of our special guest speakers on the night. Among the other directors from Common Ground, I want to acknowledge Kate Jones, Joanna Spanjaard, Michele Galagher, Justin Hogg and Mark Lightfoot, who attended on the evening.

Other special guests included: Mayor Tom Tate and Mayoress Ruth Tate; Councillor Glenn Tozer and his partner, Jude Kalman; Councillor Brooke Patterson and her husband, Roger; Councillor Darren Taylor; and Councillor Mark Hammel.

Among other guests and speakers on the night, I want to thank David Crisafulli, the Leader of the LNP, for his special contribution. I want to acknowledge the presence of Tim Mander, the shadow minister for housing, and also the member for Mundingburra, Les Walker, who purchased a ticket to join us. I particularly want to acknowledge Minister Scanlon, who could not join us on the evening but donated the purchase of her tickets and has subsequently made an announcement that I know all of us on the Gold Coast are very thankful for.

There were many other special guests on the evening. There are too many to mention. Among some of the industry representatives were: Karyn Walsh from Micah Projects; John Chesterman, the Public Advocate; Rebecca Culverhouse from Accoras; and Fiona Caniglia, Executive Director at Q Shelter. We had representatives there from the Brisbane Youth Service; Stephen Vines, the State Director of Mission Australia; Luke Lindsay from UnitingCare Queensland; Peter Gardiner, representing the Institute of Architects, who took a table; and Aaron Pimlott from the Salvation Army who also took a table. There were a large number of volunteers there from my young leaders group on the Gold Coast. I also want to add my thanks to Judith and Theo de Boer for their support in volunteering on the evening.