




Speech By
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Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Bravehearts Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Program

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (7.24 pm): I rise tonight to take a few minutes to acknowledge the great work of many of those who have been involved with Bravehearts and also to talk about the recent re-release of Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Program.

Before I do, I especially want to put on the public record the thanks of a very grateful board—and I am sure many Queenslanders and Australians—for the faithful work and service of Andrew Hay from Clayton Utz. He is a director and partner there. He has been involved in that firm for some 30 years. He has volunteered his time on the Bravehearts board since November 2016—nearly seven years. I want to put on the public record my thanks to Andrew and his team for the incredible support they have provided in addressing issues of child sexual assault in our state both from a legal perspective and from his personal involvement and the value that he has added to that board over many years.

However, I particularly want to speak tonight about Bravehearts Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Program. The original Ditto Keep Safe Adventure was launched over 20 years ago. I remember as a radio station manager promoting Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure—the CD-ROM version—on radio at no cost to help get the message out, but times have changed. Thanks to the work of people like Rebecca Balcombe and the illustrator Zoe Lewis, and Deirdre Thompson, Carol Ronken and Jo Compagne—all members of the Bravehearts team—that curriculum and those materials have been completely reworked such that we now have a whole family of friends of Ditto. There is Frankie, Watson, Belle, Sam and Georgia, and a wonderful five-book series that explores all the vital personal safety topics across five titles—everything from feelings, warning signs, body parts, e-safety and trust.

The exciting thing about the program is that it is now more broadly available. It is not just something that would travel around schools with Ditto. There are 'Ditto in a Box' packs and all of the books are available to families—grandparents and parents—to read to their children and help educate their children in a very contemporary way and also in an age-appropriate way. It is no longer a one size fits all. There are three or four different themes and they cover everything from some of the old lessons about feelings and body parts right through to issues of e-safety and how to keep your kids safe from what is going on in the online world.