




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Women's Week

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (2.28 pm): What a great week it has been in the parliament this week celebrating Queensland Women's Week. I think what we have debated in this chamber has been fantastic. It was absolutely delightful to have two of our young student leaders, Lily and Brooke, join me in the parliament yesterday with their mums, Jenni and Tracie. They were really excited to hear about our Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy and the work we are doing. There has been so much going on in that space.

I would like to take the opportunity to give a shout-out to Stacey and the team at the Centre for Women & Co. and our Centre Against Sexual Violence. They do incredible work in our space in domestic and family violence. I am really proud that in the coming month we will be deploying the Redlands high-risk team in that space. That is a really important program that will be rolling out so I thank them for all of the work they do.

In terms of health, I had the opportunity with my friend the member for Capalaba to celebrate six months of the Redlands Satellite Hospital. What a fantastic service that is delivering for our community. It is bringing health care closer to home for all Redlanders. We had the opportunity to meet with Neil, who is a regular chemotherapy patient who is managing his type of cancer ongoing. He was just so delighted to be able to have that treatment in this beautiful new facility. He is saving hours on travelling time to the PA Hospital, where he was having his treatments. He could not speak more highly of the care he is being given by Monica and the staff in our satellite hospital. I am so proud of that.

In terms of the work in the health space, as I said, there is so much going on. We opened the Lagoon Ward at the end of Redland Hospital at the end of last year. That is providing an extra 25 beds. ADCO is really going gangbusters. I think we are up to three levels already for our new intensive care unit and even more wards. In the healthcare space, it will always be the Miles government that puts the health care of Redlanders first. I am extraordinarily proud of that.

I want to take this opportunity to give a shout-out to our YMCA youth vocational school student leaders. It has been a big couple of weeks of leadership ceremonies. The students came into my meeting room in the electorate office and they did a 'thrive' of the meeting space. They came in and did a little design exercise, put together a budget, went out and picked up all of the materials and literally transformed our meeting office. It was really lovely of them to come in and do that.

I am also really proud to be an ambassador for Life Education here in Queensland. I had the opportunity to attend a class with our Redland Bay State School students on puberty, which was a very interesting topic to sit with grade sixers to learn a lot about. I give a shout-out to Life Education for all of the work which is happening across our schools.