




Speech By
Hon. Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 5 March 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Bundamba Electorate, Community Cabinet; TAFE

 **Hon. LR McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (7.28 pm): Recently, our local community celebrated a great, historic milestone moment when Queensland was governed from Bundamba. The very first community cabinet meeting for 2024—indeed, the very first community cabinet meeting of the Miles Labor government—was held in Ipswich at our local Bundamba TAFE. This was a cause for double celebration for me personally, both as the member for our mighty Bundamba community and as the Minister for Training and Skills Development.

Along with the members for Ipswich and Jordan, I was proud to welcome the entire cabinet to our local TAFE, where many locals are skilling up with our free TAFE. Free TAFE for over 70 courses means that locals can skill up and become qualified for good jobs—locals like Shelby. I caught up with Shelby recently when I dropped in to LEAD Childcare at Riverview. Shelby will soon be graduating from Bundamba TAFE with a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care—one of our free TAFE courses in priority industries. The Miles government is proud to back locals like Shelby with free qualifications to help place them in skilled jobs and great careers. With over 66,000 Queenslanders taking up free TAFE in the last 12 months, it is clear that Queenslanders absolutely love free TAFE. There is no better time than right now to enrol in free TAFE and to save.

Construction is officially underway on the big battery at Swanbank Power Station. It is delivering good local jobs as well as more clean, cheap power. This 250-megawatt battery is backed by a \$330 million investment in South-East Queensland's very first clean energy hub right in our local community. Ipswich has a long, proud history of generating the electricity that has powered the south-east's growth and delivered good, secure jobs for our community. Swanbank has been powering our homes and businesses for more than 50 years. Thanks to continued public ownership under the Miles Labor government and our groundbreaking Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, it is going to be powering on with highly skilled local jobs for at least 50 more.