



Speech By  
**Hon. Leanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

---

Record of Proceedings, 6 March 2024

## ADJOURNMENT

### Algester Electorate, Women's Week

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts) (7.04 pm): I provide my sincere condolences to the member for Bonney and his family on their loss.

Every year in March we celebrate the achievement of Queensland's women and girls with a great line-up of Queensland Women's Week events. As we have heard already this week, the Miles government is investing in female-specific programs and initiatives to improve lives and create stronger, healthier communities. Queensland Women's Week is also a week to acknowledge the efforts of women and girls taking genuine action to achieve gender equality.

In my electorate of Algester there are hundreds of incredible women and girls making a significant impact in our community: from the dedicated team at Belong with Miranda Mallet and Trish Edington providing support and connection to some of our most vulnerable residents to Di Henderson, the secretary of the Lions Club of Algester and Parkinson, who goes above and beyond to support others with fundraising to support sick kids, raising money to buy vital equipment for local ambulance committees and schools, and supporting a range of other initiatives including the well-attended Algester Queensland Day celebrations.

In Hillcrest we have Kathy and Tomeeka Smith from Defenders for Hope, which helps survivors of domestic and family violence and women experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness whilst also running local op shops. They involve the broader community in supplying Defender support packs that are specifically prepared for the individual circumstances of families, youth, homeless Queenslanders or those with sensory needs. Our school principals, deputy principals and teachers also dedicate their day to empowering and strengthening the resilience of Queensland school-age girls, and they include Sue Howell from Calamvale Special School, Lisa Starmer from Calamvale Community College, Murri School's Tanya Saltner, Janine Leach at Algester State School, Natalie Trew from Acacia Ridge State School and Pallara State School's Jayne Farrell.

I have also had the pleasure of working alongside the Algester electorate's YMCA youth parliamentarians. Most recently Algester youth parliamentarian Saakshi Datt held the portfolio of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships and helped organise NAIDOC Week celebrations in the electorate. Just two weeks ago I met incredible Calamvale Community College graduate Mahalia Mairu, who this year starts her tertiary education at Griffith University studying a Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art. Mahalia has earned high distinctions in the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation's art competition over consecutive years.

The women of the Algester electorate are united in their collective efforts to make our community a better place, each bringing their own brand of innovation, passion and understanding. I am pleased to be able to recognise many of these amazing women at my upcoming International Women's Day and

Queensland Women's Week breakfast later this week in the Algester electorate. I want to wish everybody in the Algester electorate and across our great state a very happy International Women's Day and a happy Queensland Women's Week.