




Speech By
Rob Molhoek

MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

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ADJOURNMENT

Member for Southport

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (7.55 pm): On Friday, 23 February, I woke to attend a breakfast. While in the shower I noticed that my left hand was not functioning properly and I thought I had sprained it. I felt that something was not right so I drove to the emergency department. By 4 pm that day I had lost all function down my left-hand side. As a result of this stroke, I spent eight weeks in the neurological rehabilitation ward of the Gold Coast University Hospital. My recovery is the result of fast action, many prayers, a positive focus and the incredible support of my many friends, my colleagues, my EO team, my family, Mei—my wife, who is in the gallery—my sons, my sister Connie, aunt Lisa and, of course, the remarkable doctors, nurses and rehab team from Gold Coast Health. It has been quite a journey. Just 12 weeks ago, I was still in a wheelchair.

I would like to thank the many staff who helped with my rehab, especially Taylor, Danny, Caitlin, Michael, 'Cruel Kate'—she knows who she is—and from the Robina community rehab service Tom, Lani and Carly. I have to make special mention of the remarkable Karen Smith, who got me to rehab and back each day. She has also recruited me for this year's marathon to raise money for the Gold Coast Hospital Foundation. I want to thank my EO team: Aaron, Liam and Linda. I also want to thank David and the parliamentary team and my colleagues here in the House from both sides for their messages of support. A special thanks to Angie Bell, the member for Moncrieff.

There are so many to thank: Lily Grubb for the 'one tough cookie' drawings by her son and other children at Little Grubbs in Southport; the year 6 students and staff of Bellevue Park State School; my LNP branch members; and my many mates. A special mention to Col, who smuggled early morning coffees in each day by claiming to be my chief of staff—but they soon outed him! To my speech therapist I want to say thanks. She thought it would be a good idea to download my budget speech from last year and make me practise reading it aloud as part of my therapy. It might surprise you all to know that one of the things they do in speech therapy is ask you to write down 10 phrases that we would commonly use and then practise them every day. Two of my favourite phrases were: 'Can I have a small double-shot latte, please?' and—some of you may not like this—'Only the LNP has the right priorities for Queensland's future.'