




Speech By
Rob Molhoek

MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

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ADJOURNMENT

Southport Electorate

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (9.21 pm): Tonight I rise to highlight the ongoing growth and revitalisation of Southport, the CBD of the Gold Coast. Southport is something of an engine room, and I say that because almost 20 per cent of all employment in our city is based in our CBD, the Health and Knowledge Precinct, Bundall and the industrial estates of Molendinar.

Recently the Southport Chamber of Commerce celebrated Chinese New Year in our very own Chinatown where we packed out Yuyin Chinese Cuisine for a fantastic multicultural event. I want to thank Doug Garvie, Allan Godbee, Trevor and Ara Bruger, Lavinia Rampino and the entire chamber board, all of whom work hard to advance and support local businesses in our broader community.

Our Health and Knowledge Precinct continues to thrive and is a magnificent legacy of the 2018 Commonwealth Games. This hub of innovation is home to Griffith University and the newly created Australian Centre for Precision Health and Technology. It is also home to Cohort, a home for startups, and also the recently created NeuTex Image-guided Therapy for Surgical and Robotics Training Centre. I watched in awe as Dr Hal Rice and Dr Laetitia de Villiers demonstrated non-invasive brain surgery on aneurisms and clot removal. I have been bedazzled by the work of Dr Dinesh Palipana, Claudio Pizzolato, David Saxby, Luke Kelly and David Lloyd at the institute of biomechanics, also at Griffith University. It is all a part of what makes Southport so incredible and I am excited about working with council, Griffith, Gold Coast Health and others as we seek to establish the Gold Coast as an advanced rehabilitation centre of neurowellness and excellence.

Is it any wonder that real estate veteran Andrew Bell, previously the owner of Ray White in Surfers Paradise, is now planning to relocate to Southport? He is a giant in the industry and believes Southport is now the place to be. I need to acknowledge the vision and passion of Robert Badalotti for his commitment to world-class development in my patch. The recently opened TRYP hotel is stunning, as is the cuisine in his new Amore Ristorante. The views from the Imperial Room on level 30, where I was joined by the member for Burleigh just last week at our international education workshop, are just stunning.

There are so many other amazing entrepreneurs, health professionals and community leaders in my patch and it would be remiss of me not to mention some of them, but for the sake of time I will move to congratulating the *Gold Coast Bulletin* on its 140th anniversary. We joined Belinda Dawes, the general manger; Bob Gordon, the former editor; Andrew Potts, who provided a very entertaining and insightful overview of the history of the paper; Paul Weston; Keith Woods and others from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*.