




Speech By
Hon. Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Everton Electorate, Small Business Awards

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.02 pm): I rise tonight to speak about a fabulous thing that has happened in my electorate over the last couple of months: the Everton Small Business Awards. I have never done this before, in 14 years of being a local member. We have always focused on volunteers, but we tried the small business awards for the first time. I was absolutely blown away by the response. We had 1,089 votes for 129 small businesses in three categories. It was great to see how people really engaged in this, knowing how much they valued our small businesses and how much those small businesses mean in building our community.

The three categories were hospitality, services and retail. The main hospitality award went to the Little Gossip Cafe at Everton Hills. Sadie and the girls—not just the girls but everyone in that team—do a fabulous job at Everton Hills. There were some great comments about them and their award was very well deserved. The runner-up in that category was the White Horse Ranch cafe, with Robert Ives and Anna Cooke, at Albany Creek. They have done a great job as well.

In the services category, Peter Michael Mens Hairdresser won the main award. Peter is a legend in our area. He has been operating for about 30 years. He has had a few difficulties lately with regard to tenancy, but he is back up and running and going really well, and people really appreciate him. The runner-up was the Hot Tribe Yoga & Pilates Studio and Kaz Cumming. Again, they are very much appreciated. She is based at Albany Creek.

The retail award went to Rock A Buy Baby, which is a second-hand baby clothes store just coincidentally right underneath my office. Those guys have done a fabulous job and they were very heavily supported. The Complete Car Sound guys down at Enoggera, with Craig and Nicole Dwyer, received the runner-up. The much coveted people's choice award went to Smokin' Joe's Cafe, again coincidentally opposite my office. Matt and the girls, Crystal and Mel, are just legends. Like all good coffee shops, they know everybody's order—a bit like Andrew here when you are lining up and he makes you a cup of coffee. These guys are fantastic, the coffee is fantastic, and Matt and the girls are very well received in the community.

I do want to thank my office staff, who went to a lot of effort with this: Ali, who is listening right now—hi, Ali—Tarryn and Lacey. I really appreciate their efforts. I was blown away by how popular this was. We will end up doing it every second year. The alternate year will be the volunteer of the year award. Well done.