

Question on Notice
No. 525
Asked on 20 April 2005

MR FRASER asked the Minister for State Development and Innovation (MR McGRADY) —

QUESTION:

Will he advise the House of some of the ways the electorate of Mount Coot-tha has benefited from funding programs administered by his department in the current term of the Beattie Labor Government?

ANSWER:

The Department of State Development and Innovation has the responsibility of developing strategies designed to address the rapidly changing needs of business and to strengthen the role of business as primary generators of employment.

These strategies include:

- Improving the level of management skills of new and existing business owners which empowers business owners to respond quickly and positively to rapidly changing market conditions;
- Increasing awareness of new and improved technologies and facilitating adoption of these technologies;
- Encouraging businesses to become globally competitive providing the necessary export skills training and identifying and assisting access to overseas markets; and
- Promoting the concept of entrepreneurship.

State Development and Innovation Centre Brisbane delivers the Department's programs and services in the Brisbane area which covers the Brisbane CBD, Inner City, South-Western suburbs and parts of Brisbane to the north and east of the CBD. The area covered also includes the Mount Coot-tha electorate which includes parts of Brisbane City, Paddington, Rainworth, Bardon, Toowong, Milton and Kelvin Grove.

Since 1 July 2004, State Development and Innovation Centre Brisbane has provided the following services to businesses in the Mount-Coot-tha electorate.

- 73 companies from the electorate have attended a Small Business workshop or seminar covering a range of topics including marketing, financial systems and skills development;
- 13 companies have attended a "Tendering for Government Business" workshop;
- 13 companies have attended an export marketing workshop; and
- 23 companies have attended an "Investment Ready" workshop.

State Development and Innovation Centre Brisbane provides access to programs designed to help Queensland businesses expand and create new employment. The Queensland Industry Development Scheme (QIDS) is a grant program which provides assistance to eligible businesses to increase their markets, stimulate competitiveness, attract investment and foster innovation.

Since February 2004 until 30 April 2005 a total of \$175,450 (GST inclusive) was awarded to six businesses within the Mount Coot-tha electorate under the Queensland Industry Development Scheme (QIDS). This included the following companies:

- Kensington Terrace Limited (trading as The Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association) which received \$30,525 (GST inclusive);
- Medigard Limited which received \$49,940 (GST inclusive); and
- Intellidesign Pty Limited which received \$16,775 (GST inclusive).

The Kensington Terrace Limited Export Market Development project to establish an agreement to supply educational services in Beijing is expected to achieve, over a three-year period, international sales of \$1,270,000, capital investment of \$120,000 and an expected 8 new jobs.

The Medigard Limited Product Development and Prototyping project to develop and adapt retractable blood collection technologies is expected to achieve, over a three-year period, international sales of \$7,796,000, capital investment of \$1,180,000 and an expected 17 new jobs.

The Intellidesign Pty Limited System Improvement project to meet ISO13495 standards to allow business expansion into medical device industry export markets is expected to achieve, over a three-year period, combined interstate and intrastate sales of \$1,185,000, capital investment of \$50,000 and an expected 2 new jobs.

By providing the right economic environment, existing business will prosper and new business and industry will be attracted to the region. The Queensland Government in partnership other key stakeholders will continue to deliver a range of initiatives to positively influence economic development and drive business growth in the electorate of Mount Coot-tha.