Question on Notice No. 728 Asked on 11 May 2006

MR FINN asked the Minister for Small Business, Information Technology Policy and Multicultural Affairs (MR CUMMINS) —

QUESTION:

When do the multicultural assistance program grants open and how can community organisations access the programs?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question and congratulate him on his continued support for multicultural affairs in his electorate.

I announced the opening of the Multicultural Assistance Program grants on 9 May 2006. These grants help community organisations to run projects, events and festivals which promote the benefits of multiculturalism and encourage community harmony and cohesion. Applications for funding close on 28 July 2006.

Grants are available up to a maximum of \$10,000 for multicultural festivals and events and up to a maximum of \$30,000 for community development and community relations projects. A total of \$600,000 will be available for 2006/07, with an additional \$65,000 available for the second round of grants under the Muslim Community Engagement Strategy. In addition, \$100,000 will be allocated for the second year of previously approved funding for six major multicultural festivals across the State.

The Government is pleased to support Queenslanders to embrace our shared responsibility to work together for harmony, and oppose intolerance.

Community groups can contact Multicultural Affairs Queensland directly on (07) 3224 5690 for a copy of the funding guidelines which are also available on the Queensland Government's website www.premiers.qld.gov.au/multicultural/grants. In addition, copies of the guidelines were sent to all community organisations registered with Multicultural Affairs Queensland.

Groups that need assistance in developing funding applications can get help from the Grants Access Worker funded by the Queensland Government at the Multicultural Development Association on (07) 3394 9307.