

Question on Notice

No. 431

Asked on Tuesday, 13 March 2007

MR FINN MP asked the Minister for Communities, Minister for Disability Services Queensland, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Seniors and Youth (**MR PITT**) -

What is his department doing to support National Youth Week?

ANSWER:

National Youth Week is a joint Commonwealth, State, Territory and Local Government initiative which promotes a positive profile of young people in the community. It is an opportunity for young people to highlight their issues and concerns and express their ideas and opinions.

The objectives for National Youth Week are to:

- give young people aged 12-25 the opportunity to express their ideas and views, raise issues of concern to them and act on issues which affect their lives;
- give the wider community the opportunity to listen to young people and acknowledge and celebrate the positive contributions made by young people's efforts and achievements in their local communities; and
- promote a community focus on issues of concern to young people.

The Department of Communities coordinates Queensland's involvement in National Youth Week and will be supporting the implementation of the 2007 event across Queensland.

This year I have approved a total of \$95,000 in National Youth Week grants to be allocated evenly across the 10 departmental geographical regions. This represents a \$24,000 increase on previous years. Grants of up to \$9,500 were available to community organisations and networks, young peoples' groups and local government authorities in Queensland to host one main event in each region.

I will be attending the state launch event for National Youth Week which will be held on Saturday 14 April 2007 in Townsville.

As part of National Youth Week, the 2007 Queensland Young Volunteer Awards Celebrations will be held in Brisbane on Thursday 19 April 2007.