



Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Parliament of Queensland

Media Statement

Wednesday, 2 September 2015

IPSWICH YOUTH PARLIAMENT PARTICIPANTS CONGRATULATED

Students from Ipswich and the surrounding region participated in the Ipswich Youth Parliament today. The Deputy Speaker of the Queensland Parliament, Ms Grace Grace MP, officially opened proceedings of the youth parliament this morning and then chaired its first and closing sessions.

Ms Grace congratulated all of the students and schools that participated in the Ipswich Youth Parliament, saying that the event provided all with a valuable experience of how Queensland's democratic processes work in their lives.

"On behalf of the Speaker and the Parliament, I thank the youth members from across the Ipswich region for all of their hard work in preparing for this event and for having their say on the issues that matter to them.

"It has been a great privilege to preside over and observe the Ipswich Youth Parliament and I hope that the students participating today will be inspired by this Youth Parliament and take on an even greater role in Queensland's democratic process," Ms Grace said.

Today's event at the Ipswich Civic Centre saw 90 students from 12 Ipswich and regional schools participating as Youth Members. In addition, there were approximately 50 students, teachers and parents in attendance observing the event.

Ms Grace said that the Youth Parliamentarians debated two motions, the first on the introduction of healthy eating measures in schools and the second on education and employment opportunities for students. Students then had the opportunity to speak on matters of importance to them and their community.

"The Youth Members did a wonderful job, speaking from the heart and raising many important issues that face young people from across the region," Ms Grace said.

"I, and my fellow Members of Parliament who helped chair today's debate, were most impressed by the standard of speeches and the passion shown."

The participating schools were:

Gatton State School	Churchill State School	WoodLinks State School
West Moreton Anglican College	Karalee State School	Collingwood Park State School
Silkstone State School	Mutdapilly State School	Ipswich Grammar School
Redbank Plains State School	Raceview State School	Staines Memorial College

The Queensland Parliament organises and facilitates youth parliament events across Queensland each year.

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