



MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin



Deakin Community News | Winter 2014

Dear fellow resident

The Coalition Government is hard at work delivering on our plan for a strong, prosperous economy and a safe, secure Australia.

At the election, the Coalition made a pact with Australians: to scrap the Carbon Tax, secure our borders, get the Budget under control and build the roads of the 21st century.

The Carbon Tax is now gone. A \$9 billion a year hit to the economy with no environmental benefit has been removed, reducing pressure on Deakin families and small businesses.

Our borders are secure again, and the people smugglers' business model is being smashed.

We have moved quickly on the massive task of building vital infrastructure, including the East West Link.

And we are fixing the debt and deficit mess we inherited.

Locally, I have announced funding for important projects that will improve our roads, make our area safer, and support our community groups.

I also recently held the inaugural Deakin Community Awards. It was an honour to recognise some of the people who help to make our community in Deakin so strong.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Sukkar MP



Local Sporting Champion Grants

It is important to encourage young people to participate in sport. The Local Sporting Champions program supports 12 to 18 year olds to take part in state, national or international sporting championships as well School Sport Australia state or national championships. Grants of \$500 are available to assist with the cost of travel, accommodation, uniforms or equipment when competing. Applications close on 31 October 2014.

Visit www.ausport.gov.au

Deakin Community Awards 2014

Congratulations to all of the winners in the inaugural Deakin Community Awards! It was my honour to present awards to nearly 60 unsung heroes – people who give their time, skills and energy to community organisations to make our local area a better place to live. I would particularly like to acknowledge the Overall Winner, Cr Ann Fraser, who was recognised for her exceptional commitment to strengthening our community. I am so proud of our strong community spirit and the Deakin Community Awards provided a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and foster that spirit. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the winners.





beyondblue Cup

I had the privilege of attending the beyondblue Cup, hosted by the South Croydon and Norwood football clubs. At some point in our lives most of us are affected by mental illness, whether directly or through supporting a family member or friend. I praised the initiative of the football clubs in the Parliament:

“By hosting the event, the football clubs not only raised awareness and encouraged people experiencing mental health illness to seek support, they also raised funds to help reduce the impact of anxiety and depression on our community...”

Inquiry into foreign investment of residential real estate

Community concerns have prompted the Coalition Government to announce an inquiry into foreign investment of residential real estate. I welcome the inquiry and will be making representations to the inquiry, including an outline of my concerns that foreign investment in Australian real estate may be causing a distortion in the market and making housing less accessible and affordable. I would welcome your views on this issue, so please send them to me at michael.sukkar.mp@aph.gov.au.



Intersection upgrade

I am delivering on my key election commitment to upgrade the notorious intersection of Bedford Road and Great Ryrie Street in Ringwood. After listening to the community's pleas, I secured \$1 million funding in the Budget to fix the traffic trouble spot. I look forward to work getting under way on this important road project in Ringwood, which will reduce travel times and make the area safer for motorists and pedestrians.



A proud heritage

Croydon Historical Society is receiving \$10,000 from the Coalition Government for a publishing project to give future generations insight into the current life of Croydon. I was delighted to deliver on this election commitment, which reflects the Government's dedication to instilling a new sense of pride in our heritage. Other community groups will soon be able to apply for funding under the Community Heritage and Icons Programme.



Fostering student leadership

I am hosting a series of student leadership roundtables to give secondary school students an opportunity to have their say on ways the Government can help to improve our local area and the nation, more broadly. It has been personally rewarding to meet many of the impressive young people who attend our local schools and I look forward to many more constructive discussions.



Backing our businesses

We are fortunate to have many excellent manufacturing businesses in Deakin. As Secretary of the Coalition Policy Committee on Industry, I invited the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, the Hon Bob Baldwin MP, to a lighting manufacturer in Ringwood, Burn Brite, to discuss issues including innovation, competition, and skills and training. I also recently had the privilege of visiting Cadbury's first rate facility in Ringwood.



Disability forum

Representatives from disability advocacy and service groups, local residents with disabilities, and carers attended a Ringwood forum with the Assistant Minister for Social Services, Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield. Minister Fifield answered questions on issues including the National Disability Insurance Scheme, disability pensions, and accommodation.



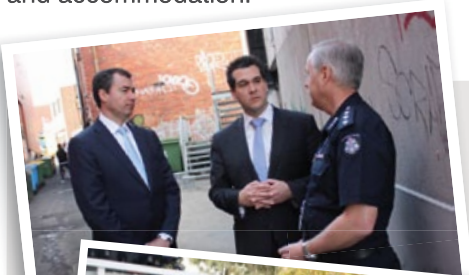
Carbon Tax scrapped

The Coalition Government has delivered on its commitment to scrap the world's biggest Carbon Tax. Removing this unfair tax will save the average household around \$550 a year and take a cost burden off local businesses. This is an important step in building a stronger economy.



Walker Park nets

Safety nets have been erected at Mitcham's Walker Park, thanks to \$30,000 in funding from the Coalition Government. I was pleased to deliver this financial assistance after the Mitcham Football Club alerted me to the problem of footballs being accidentally kicked into neighbouring properties, causing issues for residents and players.



Investing in safer streets

Everyone in our community has the right to feel safe and secure. I was pleased to secure \$680,000 in funding to help address crime and anti-social behaviour in our area. Minister for Justice, the Hon Michael Keenan MP, announced the funding under the Coalition Government's Safer Streets Programme, including:

- ✓ \$200,000 for CCTV cameras in Railway Ave, Ringwood East
- ✓ \$200,000 for CCTV cameras in central Ringwood
- ✓ \$200,000 for safety lighting in Nunawading
- ✓ \$80,000 for a retrofitted truck to assist with graffiti removal in Whitehorse

"We are very grateful to Michael and his team for helping us to obtain the support we needed for our son to receive a cochlear implant. This surgery will change his life." Margaret & Casey, Mitcham



Supporting seniors

I value the contributions of Deakin's senior residents and continue to visit aged care facilities and retirement villages such as Waldreas Lodge Village in Ringwood (pictured), Heritage Gardens in Bayswater North, and Victoria Grange in Vermont South. Croydon's Cherry Tree Grove Village also recently invited me to take part in a productive forum with over 100 residents.



Your views

It is important for me to regularly hear your views in representing the Deakin electorate in our Parliament. In doing so, I was pleased to hold our inaugural Deakin Community Forum at Ringwood RSL in May, with over 150 people in attendance. I also conduct weekly "listening posts" around the electorate to hear directly from you. Contact my office to find out more.

Out and about in the electorate of Deakin

- ✓ Opened the Diamond Jubilee of the **Ringwood** Eisteddfod
- ✓ Attended a service at the Chinese Christian Church of Victoria in **Nunawading**
- ✓ Presented an Australian flag to **Croydon** Police Station
- ✓ Visited **Ringwood** Trade Training Facility to encourage students to apply for Trade Support Loans
- ✓ Celebrated Christmas in July at **Bayswater North's** Glen Park Community Centre
- ✓ Opened new facilities at **Mitcham** Primary School
- ✓ Visited the **Vermont South** Community House
- ✓ Presented awards to players from **Heathmont's** Yarra Ariels Netball Association
- ✓ Discussed democracy with students from **Croydon's** Dorset Primary School
- ✓ Celebrated **East Ringwood** Football Club's 1000th EFL Game
- ✓ Judged a colouring competition at St Philip Primary School's Family Fun Fair in **Blackburn North**
- ✓ Toured the **Ringwood** Private Hospital and Maroondah Hospital
- ✓ Supported Mother's Day Classic by entering staff team from **Mitcham**
- ✓ Cheered on players from the **Heathmont** Jets Junior Football Club
- ✓ Presented student leadership badges to students at Parkmore Primary School in **Forest Hill**
- ✓ Supported Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Central **Ringwood** Community House and **East Ringwood** Bendigo Bank



- ✓ Delivered the keynote address at Rotary Club of **Nunawading's** Pride of Workmanship Awards
- ✓ Launched research project findings at Taralye, the oral language centre for deaf children in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Attended meeting of the **Croydon** Stroke Support Group
- ✓ Helped on the barbecue at the **Vermont South** Special School Fete and Rangeview Primary School Fair and Antonio Park Primary School Fete in **Mitcham**
- ✓ Celebrated opening of **Ringwood** Secondary College's Indigenous Garden and Diamond Jubilee bollard unveiling
- ✓ Attended St Thomas the Apostle Parish 60th Anniversary Special Mass in **Blackburn**
- ✓ Opened celebrations of World Autism Day at Irabina in **Croydon**
- ✓ Visited members of the **Vermont** Men's Shed
- ✓ Held stalls at **East Ringwood** Community Market and **Blackburn** Station Craft Market

Community Noticeboard

New website

My website has been updated to make it easier to navigate and find the information you need. Visit www.michaelsukkar.com.au

Australian Flags

Community groups and exchange students travelling overseas can request flags and flag packs from my office.

Certificates of Appreciation

Veterans can apply for Certificates of Appreciation under the Government's Saluting Their Service Commemorations Program. Contact my office to find out more.

Congratulatory messages

My office can help organise congratulatory messages from the Queen, Governor General and the Prime Minister for milestone birthdays and wedding anniversaries.



Parliamentary lesson

It was a delight to welcome students from Whitehorse Primary School to my office in Canberra. The Year 5 and 6 students had plenty of great questions about the workings of the Parliament.



MENA Deakin Twilight Cup

I was thrilled to team up with the Melbourne East Netball Association to sponsor the Deakin Twilight Cup, which saw hundreds of netballers turn out on a Sunday at Heathmont's HE Parker Reserve.