

Kimberley Girl Event — Broome — Adjournment Debate

HON KEN BASTON (Mining and Pastoral) [10.18 pm]: I want to bring to the attention of the house an event that occurs annually in Broome; that is, Kimberley Girl. This event is run by Goolarri Media Enterprises, and it has been running for some six years. It is very much the brainchild of Kira Fong, who is the chief operations manager at Goolarri Media. I also believe that it is the only Indigenous modelling event in Western Australia. I have to say, having attended some of the heats, that it is a fantastic event. This is put no better than in the program, in the bit that I want to quote from, because I do not believe I could sum it up as well. It states —

Kimberley Girl is about leadership. It is about giving young Indigenous women the tools to realize their potential, to empower them in their endeavours, to give them the confidence to dream big and reach for the stars. Kimberley Girl is about giving participants the Wings to Fly.

I think that sums up the event very well. On Friday, 2 October, I attended heats 1 and 2, which were amalgamated for reasons unknown to me. The winners of those two heats who went into the finals were Aimee Howard, Adele Peek, Marlikka Perdrisat, Jahlana Roe, Jessica Edgar, Mary Baird, Catlin Fuller and Ivyrose Mills. All the entrants in heats 1 and 2 were very competent young ladies who came from all over the Kimberley. All the entrants attended a personal development workshop, inspirational speaker sessions and modelling classes. In the heats the girls were required to showcase catwalk modelling wearing local fashion designs.

The event is filmed by Goolarri Media Enterprises and broadcast throughout the Broome area. The event brings a positive attitude to not only the entrants involved in Kimberley Girl, but also other Indigenous women who watched the associated television programs. The finals were held on 9 October, and the Kimberley Girl for 2009 is Aimee Howard. The first runner-up was Jahlana Roe, the second runner-up was Adele Peek, the most photographic girl was Marlikka Perdrisat and the people's choice was Jahlana Roe. I congratulate the winners— in fact, I congratulate all the girls who entered the event.

I commend all those involved in running this event. A lot of work goes into it. It involves not only training the girls in deportment and the like, but also organising the master of ceremonies, music, stage lighting and the provision of food and drinks and the catwalk, the judges and the sponsors. For members who have not attended Kimberley Girl, I recommend that they visit Broome in September to attend the event. It is fantastic. I was pleased that Hon Wendy Duncan's name came up on the screen as a sponsor of that event. I commend her for that.

I am sure that Aimee Howard will go on to be an ambassador for the Kimberley for 2009-10 and I wish her luck and congratulate her.

The PRESIDENT: I will give the call to Hon Giz Watson. At this stage I point out that on my calculation there are still four members remaining of those members who indicated that they wanted to speak. We know this debate has a limit of 40 minutes. I will do my best to provide an opportunity for all members. I can only do that within the constraints, and I want to be fair to all parties across the chamber.