

Good Evening

I am delighted to be here this evening at another Melville Cockburn Chamber of Commerce networking event and in particular to officially open Bellagio Homes Pty Ltd new business premises with a carnival backdrop.

I acknowledge the Nyungar people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which we are meeting tonight and I pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Nyungar Nation and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who may be present.

I acknowledge:

- Mr Tony Romano, Chairman of the Melville Cockburn Chamber of Commerce and Members Board members;
- The effervescent Ms Louise Towler, Marketing Manager Melville Cockburn Chamber of Commerce;
- Mr Reg Bellagio, Bellagio Homes
- Mr Troy Heygate, Managing Director of Bellagio Homes
- Mayor Russell Aubrey, City of Melville;
- Councillors from the City of Melville and Cockburn;
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

Over the past 10 years the City has experienced a steady growth rate of approximately 3% per annum.

Our City's population is forecast to increase from 95,000 to 117,000 by 2020, the opportunities for current residents to upsize or downsize their homes and for new families to establish themselves in any one of the 21 suburbs of Cockburn has never been better.

Lifestyle choices range from bushland settings to Oceanside living and everywhere in between.

Greenfield developments continue across our district as well as infill programs in suburbs such as Coolbellup, Southwell, Spearwood and progressively into Hamilton Hill.

Infill sewerage and underground power projects have allowed for the revitalization of some of our 'older' suburbs and it is exciting to see property owners taking advantage of these new opportunities.

Outcome include:

- financial returns to families;
- investment driven developments;
- increased local job and career opportunities;
- growth opportunities for small business including home builders, commercial, retail and the like; and
- a boost for membership of sporting, cultural, recreational, community and service clubs.

These and other factors lead to a more vibrant and dynamic community that continues to ensure that the City of Cockburn is the best place to live, work, recreate and invest in within the metropolitan area.

As we stand in the new business premises of Bellagio Homes I refer to their very powerful mission statement:

We are "Bellagio"

We wake in the morning to a goal.

We work for satisfaction.

We go home with a smile.

We are Bellagio.

A culture, a team, a family.

Passionate to our clients,
accomplished to our goals,

as we endeavour to make every home an expression of our clients lifestyle.

We believe in you, our future.

We believe in Bellagio.

Now that sends a very strong message to the community and particularly to those who are considering too build a new home.

Finalists and winners of numerous Housing Industry Association and Master Builders Association and other awards speak volumes for Bellagio Homes who since their establishment in March 2005 have clearly demonstrated that they are here to stay as a boutique building company.

They construct single and double storey homes within a contract range of \$350k to \$900k and the majority of their work is done in the southern corridor in the cities of Melville & Cockburn.

They are committed to supporting local businesses engaging local suppliers and employing many local trades and sub-contractors.

They are one of the most prominent Homes builders in the Melville, South Beach and Port Coogee areas and have completed many homes to a very high standard.

The Bellagio Group of company's turns over approximately \$10m per year and employ 9 direct employees and approximately 100 trades, sub-contractors and suppliers.

Bellagio Homes vision is to provide excellent customer service along with a high standard of quality, organisation, accuracy, local knowledge, honesty & integrity.

Their vision fits comfortably with the ethos of Cockburn where we have seen and continue to see both individual, families and businesses grow and prosper together based on the tradition of hard work and mutual respect for the rich and culturally diverse community forged by our pioneering families.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am now very pleased to officially declare open Bellagio Homes new business premises and to wish them well with their future deliberations and contributions to the growth and development of Cockburn and our adjoining local governments.

Thank you.