



Media release

From Jaala Pulford MP,
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BALLARAT EMPLOYER WINS BRUMBY GOVERNMENT AWARD

Sixteen of Victoria's best employers, including an employer from Ballarat, have been recognised for providing their workers with best practice, fair and flexible working conditions by the Brumby Labor Government.

Parliamentary Secretary for Industrial Relations, Jaala Pulford MP was delighted that local firm Simplex Insurance Solutions were announced as a winner in the *Fair and Flexible Employer Recognition* award ceremony and congratulated the organisations who were judged to be leading the way when it comes to providing employee friendly workplaces.

"The Brumby Labor Government is committed to securing Victorian jobs and is supporting families through this tough economic climate," Ms Pulford said.

"We are committed to promoting policies and encouraging practices which make life easier for working families and through these awards we aim to promote corporate role models who have successfully introduced initiatives to assist working Victorian families.

"I commend Simplex Insurance Solutions for implementing initiatives in their workplaces that care for their employees. They reflect the values held by the Brumby Labor Government by providing conditions that encourage a healthy work and life balance, particularly when considering the employees family situation, whilst also providing fair wages and conditions to all their staff," Ms Pulford said.

Simplex Insurance Solutions is a small general insurance brokerage firm offering a range of insurance policies to people Australia wide. Four of the seven employees have attested that they value the balance they have been able to achieve, and although there is no official policy, a suite of flexible working practices are available to them to meet personal circumstances.

If and when those circumstances change, the owner/manager Mrs Kay Jackson is more than willing to alter their work arrangement to reflect that. Employees are given an option to work school hours only and extra flexibility is available to take time off during the working day to attend school functions and family events.

In a recent employee satisfaction survey conducted by HR Coach on behalf of Simplex, the results gave an overall satisfaction rating of 94%, showing that a workforce that is "engaged, motivated, and who care about the business.

"Like Simplex Insurance Solutions, companies throughout Victoria are recognising the growing need to become more flexible to cope with the changing workforce that is becoming largely populated by parents and older workers."

Further information and case studies of other winners can be found at:

www.ways2work.business.vic.gov.au