

# Southern Gazette

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BELMONT

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## Belmont BEC wins \$100k grant

By **BRENDAN HOLBEN**

BELMONT'S Business Enterprise Centre was last week awarded a \$100,000 grant under the Small Business Advisory Services National Disaster Assistance program.

The funding is from a \$2.5 million Federal Government program with 25 not-for-profit business advisory programs receiving funding.

Small Business Minister Nick Sherry presented Belmont BEC

chief executive Carol Hanlon with the grant on July 25.

Organisations in the program will use the funding to support small businesses hit by the natural disasters such as the Queensland, Victorian and northern WA floods.

He said the 25 organisations would provide advice on business planning, finance, marketing, legal and accounting matters, government regulation and referrals.

Ms Hanlon said the Belmont

BEC would provide assistance through its online training courses available nationwide.

"Any small business not in close proximity to another government-funded business advisory can make use of our resources," she said.

"Belmont BEC is honoured to win \$100,000 of funding to help us provide business advisory services across Australia under our My Business Incubator project."

Senator Sherry said the additional funding would help small

businesses affected by natural disasters access advisory services as soon as possible.

"The Belmont BEC has a strong record of providing its services on a national basis; in recent years it was nominated for Best BEC in Australia and Best National BEC," he said.

Senator Sherry said the total \$2.5 million funding was in addition to a \$725,000 extension of the Government's Queensland Tourism Industry Support Package.



Senator Nick Sherry (left) with Belmont BEC chief Carol Hanlon and Tim Hammond. d360374