



\$1m shot in arm for survey

THE State Government is to inject \$1 million into the Busselton Health Survey over the next four years.

Instigated in 1966 by the late Dr Kevin Cullen, the survey is an internationally recognised organisation.

The Busselton Population Medical Research Foundation, led by Dr Digby Cullen and Professor Bill Musk, has collated medical data from the local community for more than 40 years and is described by public health experts as a "national medical treasure".

Vasse MLA Troy Buswell said: "This funding is well deserved and will be put to good use by the organisation in furthering their research activ-



Reason to smile: Digby Cullen, left, Bill Musk and Troy Buswell

ities. The data and materials collated by the Busselton Health Survey has made significant contributions to regional, national and international research through a wide variety of health projects including diabetes, cardio vascular health, the prevalence of sleep apnea and the genetics

of asthma," he said.

Busselton Health Survey is currently collaborating with an international asthma genetics group in Vancouver to use data and materials collected as part of the Busselton Health Study in future international studies on asthma genetics.

"The enormous bene-

fit to the local community is the detailed research into common diseases and the effects caused by the local environment, lifestyle and other risk factors," Mr Buswell said.

"I would encourage local residents not already involved to take the time to participate in the study programs."