



Government of Western Australia Department of Training and Workforce Development Building the workforce to meet the economic and community needs of Western Australia









Welcome to the winter 2016 edition of *Training Matters* which features the launch of the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre's new look website and online jobs board.

We also report on recent changes that will create a stronger, more effective and streamlined TAFE system in Western Australia.

Read about North Metropolitan TAFE's new centre in Joondalup which will boost training in the area of health and social assistance and Koora-Marr, South Metropolitan TAFE's new Aboriginal Training and Resource Centre in Thornlie.

Training Matters continues to celebrate the success of WA WorldSkills competitors, with stories on painter and decorator Sharlene Kidd who recently won a share of the Ern MacDonald Fellowship and preparations for Team WA as they head east to contest the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in October.

Also included is a report on the 2016 Training Providers Forum, a preview of the 2016 Skills West Expo and all the colour of the Muresk Institute Open Day.

All this and more in this edition of *Training Matters*.





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Cover: Plumber Luke Brown will be competing at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition later this year as part of Team WA. Luke trained with MPA Skills.

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Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre Associate Director Carolyn Davis, Matt Taylor MLA, representing the Deputy Premier and Minister for Training and Workforce Development, and Department of Training and Workforce Development Service Delivery Executive Director Karen Ho at the launch.



 The launch of the jobs board was held in the historic foyer of the GPO building in Forrest Place, Perth.



 Department of Training and Workforce Development Service Delivery Senior Client Program Officer Ashley Chaulk demonstrates the AWDC website and jobs board to YMCA's Sue Young.

Jobs board supports Aboriginal jobseekers

New State Government initiatives are providing key support for Aboriginal jobseekers, further removing barriers to employment.

Deputy Premier and Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey said the new jobs board and revamped website for the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre were among the 'next steps' identified in the 2014 update of the Training Together – Working Together Aboriginal workforce development strategy.

"Key among these next steps is the development of more deliberate engagement strategies targeting both young Aboriginal people and employers," she said.

"The focus on young people is particularly important. There is a need to help young Aboriginal people, especially those leaving school, to access opportunities for further education and training, and to enter employment.

"The jobs board will specifically support employment. It will enable government and non-government organisations to lodge vacancies online and access resumes and other documents posted by registered Aboriginal jobseekers."

Since it went live, up to 120 government and non-government job vacancies have been available on the site at any one time.

"The response to the jobs board has been positive and I would like to encourage more employers to make the most of the free service," Mrs Harvey said.

"Our focus is to get Aboriginal people into sustainable employment. The jobs board will be a vital tool to increase job opportunities for Aboriginal people throughout Western Australia."

With five offices in Perth and regional WA, the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centres provide jobseekers with access to a range of support services and advice to employers on how to attract, recruit and retain Aboriginal employees.

Appointments strengthen training sector

Since April, TAFE college Governing Councils and interim Managing Directors have been working with the Department of Training and Workforce Development on the reform of Western Australia's public training sector.

Under the reform, the State's 70 campuses are managed by five TAFE colleges.

Chairs of the governing councils include Elizabeth Carr (South Metropolitan TAFE), Emeritus Professor William (Bill) Louden (North Metropolitan TAFE), Professor Bryant Stokes (South Regional TAFE), Mary Woodford (Central Regional TAFE) and Ian Smith (North Regional TAFE).

Interim managing directors include Terry Durant (South Metropolitan TAFE), Michelle Hoad (North Metropolitan TAFE), Duncan Anderson (South Regional TAFE), Bill Swetman (Central Regional TAFE) and Kevin Doig (North Regional TAFE).

Deputy Premier and Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey said the appointment of governing councils was a key milestone in implementing WA's new TAFE structure, which would ensure a robust training sector into the future.

"Each appointee brings with them extensive knowledge of the State's vocational education and training sector," Mrs Harvey said.

"Membership for governing councils, in regional areas in particular, has ensured each council includes representation from the whole region."

Mrs Harvey said the governing councils and interim managing directors were working with the Department to determine how best to collaborate to offer enhanced training for students.

"Colleges are working closely together to ensure more coordinated delivery of training programs across the TAFE system, giving students access to a broader range of courses and higher quality training," she said.

"This will lead to improved links between regional and metropolitan colleges and will allow resources and expertise to be shared across the State.

"TAFE colleges are a significant cornerstone of WA's vocational education and training system, and these changes will ensure this position is maintained and enhanced into the future."

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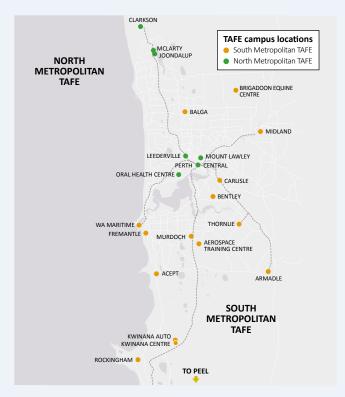
Membership for governing councils, in regional areas in particular, has ensured each council includes representation from the whole region.

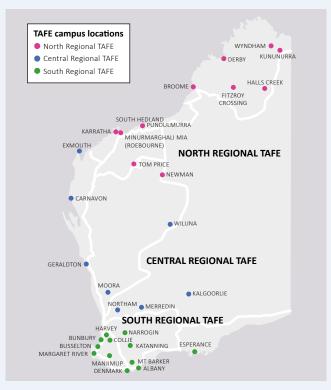


 Central Regional TAFE Governing Council meeting at the Kalgoorlie campus.



L-R Interim Managing Directors: Kevin Doig from North Regional TAFE, Terry Durant from South Metropolitan TAFE, Michelle Hoad from North Metropolitan TAFE, Duncan Anderson from South Regional TAFE and Bill Swetman from Central Regional TAFE.





Metropolitan TAFE campus locations

^ Regional TAFE campus locations

Working together for a stronger TAFE system

The merger of 11 TAFE colleges into five has created a stronger, more collaborative TAFE presence across Western Australia.

Each of the college's governing councils have an important role in ensuring local training requirements are met and members travel extensively throughout their regions, rotating their meetings through each major campus.

These meetings will help colleges develop a close understanding of the particular needs of business and communities for their region.

Interim managing directors will continue to meet key staff regularly and collaborate with their governing council to establish an effective and sustainable TAFE system in WA.

Each college includes corporate executive teams who are situated at major TAFE campuses and ensure a strong staff presence in these regions. These teams also assist their governing

councils and collaborate with local industry and communities.

TAFE in WA has a solid platform from which to build on past achievements and enhance and evolve their products and services.

South Regional TAFE interim Managing Director Duncan Anderson said the bigger organisations would allow closer collaboration between the colleges, and a larger shared pool of expertise and resources.

"This will ensure all colleges continue to provide high quality training for students and have a stronger focus on workforce development," he said.

"People in communities served by the smaller campuses will also benefit from the bigger college structure. "The firm reputation for excellence which the colleges have built up over the decades will stand us in good stead as we move into this exciting new era."

North Metropolitan TAFE interim Managing Director Michelle Hoad said she had received positive feedback from local residents on the reinstatement of the TAFE brand.

"It is widely recognised in the community as a sign of quality training programs that are endorsed and respected by the industries they serve," she said.

"The new college has a broader range of experienced staff and enhanced resources available to the community and with our expanded reach it will provide our students with improved access to more diverse training programs."



^ State Training Board Chair Jim Walker with Engineering Institute of Technology's Engineering and Project Manager Steve Steyn.

Spotlight on the State Training Board

State Training Board Chair Jim Walker had a first-hand look at some of the challenges and opportunities facing the State's private training sector earlier this year.

Mr Walker visited several member campuses of the Australian Council for Private Education and Training, including Youth With a Mission, Engineering Institute of Technology, Taylorweir School of Hairdressing and Dental Nursing Australia.

The visits showcased the diversity, choice and world class training facilities available both on campus and online for students studying at private training institutions in Western Australia.

Since being appointed as Board Chair in 2014, Jim has engaged closely with vocational education and training (VET) providers and taken a close interest in training opportunities, particularly for young people and in apprenticeships.

"I enjoy meeting stakeholders," Mr Walker said. "Participating in tours such as this gives me first-hand knowledge of some of the training opportunities available to Western Australians.

"I am a strong advocate for the opportunities vocational education

and training provides, especially for young people. I started my career as an apprentice diesel/heavy equipment fitter. The apprenticeship opened many doors for me in my career."

Mr Walker's background in industry and his commitment to education underpins his leadership of the State Training Board. He works closely with fellow board members, Industry Training Councils, the Department of Training and Workforce Development and key stakeholders to progress strategic issues which impact the VET sector.

"A rewarding part of my role is to provide advice to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development on the training sector," Mr Walker said

"The State Training Board is the peak industry training advisory body to the Minister and our main objective is to advise and make recommendations on a variety of VET issues to help ensure the availability of appropriately skilled labour in WA.

"This includes supply and demand for skills, strategic directions and emerging international, national and State training issues."

The Board's latest project focuses on the implications of technology and innovation on the State's key industries, the workforce and skill requirements.

"Mobile internet, advanced robotics, 3D printing and autonomous vehicles are all likely to impact on the skills required in WA in the near future, and on the jobs people will do," Mr Walker said.

"Our role is to look at the implications of these trends for the training system to help ensure opportunities for apprentices, trainees and those wishing to up skill meet the current and future needs of industry and the State."

New facilities for health

A refurbished simulation hospital is part of a new training campus in Perth's northern corridor that will meet increased demand for skilled workers in the health and social assistance sector.

Opening North Metropolitan TAFE's Health and Wellness Training Campus in Joondalup, Deputy Premier and Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey said the state-of-the-art facilities would support the delivery of higher level training.

"Demand for services in the area of health and social assistance will increase as the population ages, with qualifications focusing on enrolled nursing and allied health assistance, for example, considered a priority for Western Australia," she said.

"North Metro TAFE's new facilities will allow additional training to be delivered, particularly at Certificate IV and Diploma levels.

"The existing campus buildings date back 30 years, so a lot of work was needed to create a contemporary facility to provide industry relevant training to meet current and future needs." Almost \$11 million was invested to complete major upgrades and remedial work, enhancing students' training in fitness and recreation, sports, beauty therapy, allied health assistance and nursing.

Work also included the full refurbishment of an existing simulation hospital training centre, which boasts industry relevant equipment such as a 'wet' manikin,

overhead hoist and a functional medical air and suction apparatus.

"The simulation hospital gives students studying to become enrolled nurses a strong understanding of what it's like to work in a real hospital environment," Mrs Harvey said.



 Diploma of Enrolled Nursing students Irina Volchenkova and Wonne Lamb with Deputy Premier and Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey.

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Trainer profile – Brendon Meinck

South Metropolitan TAFE auto body lecturer Brendon Meinck is dedicated to delivering skilled panel beaters to industry and believes there has never been a better time to get into the trade.

Passionate about the auto body trade, Brendon's career has spanned 25 years, as an apprentice and tradesman and now a lecturer and WorldSkills competition judge.

Brendon said there was a skills shortage in the auto body repair industry and more good apprentices were needed.

"The population is growing and so is the number of cars on the roads," he said. "It's a sad fact there will be crashes and people need to have their cars fixed."

Brendon has always worked in the auto body trade and said he liked how varied it was.

"There are so many aspects to panel beating, such as panel, paint, trim, electrical, fit-out, and the mechanical ability to take an engine out and put it back," he said.

"There is a lot of satisfaction in taking a damaged car and making it shiny and new again."

As a trade, panel beating has suffered in the past from the perception it was not 'glamorous', but Brendon said attitudes were changing.

"Workshops have improved immensely, particularly in the areas of safety and ergonomics. They are also brighter and cleaner," he said.

"It is an exciting time to get involved. Technology is moving fast. What cars are made of and how they are put together is changing rapidly and so are the methods used to repair them. Keeping up with the pace of change keeps the industry challenging."

Several years ago, Brendon's dedication to producing quality tradespeople led to his involvement as a judge and mentor with WorldSkills, a trade and skill



^ Lecturer Brendon Meinck shows a colour coded cut away vehicle to Certificate II in Auto Body Repair students. Brendon created the vehicle to show the different types of metals used in modern vehicles.

competition for young people held at regional, national and international level.

This year, Brendon will be chief judge for the auto body competition to be held at the national event in Melbourne in October. He is also training and mentoring two members of WorldSkills Team WA, Damien Kleyn and Muhammad Abu Yazid Jesa.

"Team WA is quietly confident they will both do well," Brendon said. "In preparation for the competition,

they will both come back on campus for some one-on-one training. The competition will be tight and we need to make sure every aspect is perfect."

Brendon enjoys teaching and for him, job satisfaction also comes from being able to put good tradespeople out into the workplace.

"It's great to be able to see them go right through their apprenticeship, open their own shop and then take on their own apprentices and know that you had a part in that."

Sharlene gets a head start

Western Australian painter and decorator Sharlene Kidd has won a share in the 2016 Ern MacDonald Fellowship, allowing her to follow a dream to start her own business.

The Fellowship is run in association with WorldSkills Australia and helps to launch the careers of young tradespeople who work in the areas of building and construction. To be eligible, applicants must be previous national WorldSkills medallists.

Sharlene said competition for the scholarship was strong and for the first time two winners had been announced, with the second winner coming from New South Wales.

"Winning the Fellowship will give me a good start on my all-female painting and decorating business," she said. "To get through to the second round of applications I had to put a business plan together and at the interview explain it in detail to the judges.

"Now I can put it into place. I can buy ladders, scaffolding and IT equipment and pay for business courses and my painter's registration."

WorldSkills WA State and Regional Manager Fiona Johnson said Sharlene was an inspiration to her peers.

"Sharlene initially placed fourth at regional competition level but through sheer determination and hard work went on to win gold at national level. She then represented Australia as a Skillaroo in Brazil last year," Fiona said.

"She is a great example of how far skill and focus can take you in your career."



 Sharlene and her international expert and trainer Ian Vickery at the Ern MacDonald Fellowship presentation.



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Expanding women's career options

Applications for the 2017 round of the *Expanding career options for women* scholarship program will open soon.

This will be the third round of the program, which encourages women to take up non-traditional industries, trades and occupations where women make up less than 25 per cent of the total workforce.

More than 215 scholarships have been awarded in the first two rounds in a range of study areas including IT, management, horticulture, engineering, building and construction and work health and safety.

The State Government has committed \$1.2 million over four years to provide 400 scholarships to the value of \$3 000 each. There will be at least 100 scholarships available for 2017.

Expressions of interest are being taken now. Visit dtwd.wa.gov.au for eligibility details and to register your interest.

For further information, contact the Department of Training and Workforce Development at wntt@dtwd.wa.gov.au.



 The Expanding career options for women scholarship program encourages women to take up non-traditional industries.



South Regional TAFE Manjimup Campus Manager Mary Guadagnino congratulates Manjimup Campus Student of the Year Amy Matthews. Photo courtesy Manjimup-Bridgetown Times.

Amy awarded

Since enrolling in a horticulture course 18 months ago, South Regional TAFE student Amy Matthews has gone from strength to strength with her studies.

Amy was recently awarded \$3 000 as a recipient in the second round of the *Expanding career options for women* scholarship program. She was also named Manjimup Campus Student of the Year at a recent college award night.

Amy combines her studies with work in the viticulture industry. She also works with a local farmer to grow, sell and market produce at farmers markets throughout the Great Southern and South West regions.

"I decided to study horticulture for personal interest and found that I really enjoyed some of the more technical aspects, such as the biology of the soil," she said.

"I did so well it became more than an interest, so after completing a Certificate II I enrolled in the Certificate III.

"My lecturer encouraged me to apply for the scholarship. I am very grateful and happy that I did. The scholarship will enable me to pay my course fees and complete my Certificate III."

Amy encouraged other women to consider a trade occupation and apply for a scholarship when the next round opened.

"Go for it – put your name down," she said. "You never know unti you try."

Training council recognised at OMI Awards

The Financial Administration and Professional Services Training Council (FAPSTC) is a champion of the needs of the translating and interpreting workforce.

Part of its focus is to re-establish training for this sector in Western Australia while also continuing to support industry and the Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI).

The training council has been recognised for the work it does in raising the profile of translating and interpreting as a vital service for the culturally and linguistically diverse community.

It recently won the Community Organisation Award for Outstanding Contribution to Multiculturalism at OMI's 2016 WA Multicultural Recognition Awards.

FAPSTC Chief Executive Officer Allan Jones said he was honoured to receive the award on behalf of his team

"We would like to thank OMI and congratulate the other award recipients, which included organisations, individuals and community groups across eight categories," he said.

The training council's work included chairing the Translating and Interpreting Industry Taskforce in 2015.

"The taskforce undertook research and delivered recommendations to help ensure the long term supply of skilled professionals and the reestablishment of training in this area," Allan said.

"We also conducted a comprehensive analysis of the translating and interpreting workforce to ensure these services are recognised on the State Priority Occupation List."

This is just one area that the training council has been involved in so far this

year. It has also worked on mandatory pre-licence testing for the security industry.

"The security industry and WA Police had ongoing concerns that people who applied for security officer and crowd controller licences did not have the necessary language, literacy and numeracy skills or competencies to work effectively in the industry," Allan said.

"To combat this we developed a competency testing process applicants must pass before they are able to apply for a licence.

"We are also working on a scoping project for financial literacy support for workers in trade occupations. This need was ascertained through discussions with the Construction Training Council and feedback from various stakeholders.

"Identifying an initial cohort and their specific skill needs will be a major focus for us in the coming year.

"Thirdly, due to the high use of business qualifications in secondary schools we will continue our work on developing and running industry engagement forums to connect teachers with industry.

"The forum we ran last year attracted more than 120 teachers from metropolitan and regional WA. It's an important area to invest our time and resources in, to ensure the delivery of meaningful and appropriate business training."



^ The Financial Administration and Professional Services Training Council team – L-R: Chief Executive Officer Allan Jones, Administration Assistant Lorraine Eastman and Project Managers Bronte Cox and Alison Sweet.



 The low ropes course was a problem solving activity at the recent training day for WorldSkills Team WA.



 Jarrod Martin competing at the refrigeration competition in Melbourne.

WA's best have world skills

Almost 80 young apprentices, trainees and students will represent Western Australia as they take on the nation's best in the WorldSkills Australia National Competition.

Held in Melbourne in October, the competition will challenge more than 500 young people from across Australia to achieve their best in one of 50 different skill and trade categories, including VET in Schools (VETiS).

WorldSkills WA State Manager Fiona Johnson said Team WA was made up of talented apprentices, trainees and students aged 23 and under.

"They have all earned their place in the team as medallists in the regional competitions held in WA last year," she said. "They are now focussed on being national champions."

In preparation for the competition, Team WA recently came together for an intensive day of training at HBF Stadium.

Fiona said the day was about preparing the team members' heads rather than their hands. "The training day was designed to achieve a number of outcomes," she said. "As well as a chance for them to meet for the first time as a team, we had activities designed to test their ability to handle pressure and to emphasise the importance of planning an approach.

"One of these was the infamous 'Leap of Faith', where people launched from a height onto a trapeze. An activity like this gives team members a chance to face their fears and conquer them."

Organisers also took the opportunity to present refrigeration mechanic Jarrod Martin with his team uniform, as he prepared to lead the charge from the West at the refrigeration competition which took place in May in Melbourne.

Jarrod battled it out for honours with nine other top apprentices from around Australia in the three-day competition. While he did not place in the top three, Jarrod benefited from the experience.

"Every member of Team WA is a credit to their employers, trainers and the State," Fiona said.

WA teams have increased their medal count at the last three national competitions, with 10 medallists in 2010, 14 in 2012 and 16 in 2014. Fiona hopes the upward trend will continue in 2016.

"I am confident Team WA will come home from Melbourne with medals," she said.

"This is our biggest team to date, with a huge increase in VETiS numbers, and for the first time we will have competitors from all five WorldSkills regions of WA."

Aboriginal students supported at Koora-Marr

Fashion technology student Kirsten Holiner was recognised for her commitment to her studies earlier this year by being awarded a training scholarship through South Metropolitan TAFE.

Kirsten was one of four high achieving Aboriginal students who was presented with a scholarship to help celebrate the opening of South Metro TAFE's Koora-Marr Aboriginal Training and Resource Centre at Thornlie this year.

Together with Rozena Egan, Noeleen Hamlett and Janique Kovacs, Kirsten was recognised for progress in her current study pathway, commitment to ongoing education and training and support of her peers.

Kirsten is in her third year of the Fashion Design and Technology pathway. She has completed Certificate IV and the Diploma and is now studying an Advanced Diploma. She said the scholarship had enabled her to buy materials and supplies to help complete her studies.

"When I graduate, I would like to work in the industry until I have the experience and knowledge to start my own business," she said. "I would also like to be involved with Koora-Marr and encourage other Aboriginal students to study and follow a career path to a job they really want to do. If I can do it, other people can too."

Since it opened, the centre has provided a friendly, culturally sensitive space for many Aboriginal students seeking advice and support with their studies.

Staff at Koora-Marr work closely with students, employers and lecturers to ensure a positive and successful learning environment, and the dedicated space is a central point for tailored products and programs for Aboriginal students. It also delivers cultural education training to South Metro TAFE staff.



South Metropolitan TAFE students Kirsten Holiner and Noeleen Hamlett received training scholarships at the opening of the Koora-Marr Aboriginal Training and Resource Centre earlier this year.

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Going to TAFE

When she was 15 years old, Evelyn Weldon was a disengaged high school student who mixed with the wrong crowd and skipped school – then discovered she was pregnant.

Just 18 months later, Evelyn is a responsible, well-presented and articulate young woman with a 12-month-old baby and a commitment to making a good life for herself and her son.

After facing tough times at a tender age, Evelyn gained the strength to turn her life around.

"I wanted to get my life together, save some money and provide for my child," she said.

Evelyn enrolled in Certificate II in Community Services at South Regional TAFE's Albany campus at the start of 2015. She recognised the importance of qualifications that would lead to a good career.

Her parents encouraged her to be independent but also provided invaluable support. She took a threemonth break from class when son Ashton was born in July 2015 but did not give up on her studies, continuing to work during her son's sleep time.

"I spread my books out on the kitchen table and carried on working," Evelyn said.

By September, Evelyn was back in class, with Ashton cared for at the Rainbow Child Care Centre which adjoins the Albany campus.

Evelyn has clear plans for the future and this year she has enrolled in Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, with the intention of progressing to the Diploma.

"Once I have the Diploma under my belt I would like to take a Bachelor degree at university and eventually operate my own day care centre," she said.

Children's Services Lecturer Anne Parker was impressed by Evelyn's commitment to her studies as well as her determination to improve her life and that of her son.

"She has her feet firmly on the ground, and works very hard to do the right thing by her family," Anne said.

"We have 38 students focussed on Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, ranging in age from 15 to 55 years, with the majority under 18. Some study via Vocational Education and Training in Schools programs and others like Evelyn have left school for various reasons.

"Attaining this Certificate is a huge step. It includes two 120 hour practical placements so the students get to know the industry really well.

"This can make a big difference to the students' lives as they become valued members of staff or they use their Diploma as Evelyn wants to do, to access advanced entry into university."



^ South Regional TAFE student Evelyn Weldon and her son Ashton.

New Peel centre popular

Since the official launch of the Peel Workforce Development Centre earlier this year the free career support and information service has been popular with residents.

Funded by the Department of Training and Workforce Development, services provided at the centre aim to increase participation in the workforce and provide high quality career advice. These are delivered by local organisation Bridging the Gap, which has outreach services across the region.

Bridging the Gap Chief Executive Officer Jane McWhirter said the centre had been extremely busy during the last six months and outreach services had really picked up.

"Most in demand are our career action plans, career advice and Career Works, a computer aided guidance tool," she said. "Our employability workshops have also taken off with good numbers in all sessions. These are run weekly and include a resume information session, how to apply for work, electronic job searching and interview techniques."

The centre was made possible with a \$538 700 investment from the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.

People of any age in the region can access the centre to make education, training and occupational choices and to manage their careers. The centre also focuses on increasing participation in the workforce particularly for

underemployed, disengaged and underrepresented groups in the community.

Services are offered face to face, online or over the phone. Visit bridgingthegap.org.au for more information.

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People of any age in the region can access the centre to make education, training and occupational choices and to manage their careers.



Training Providers Forum 2016

The student perspective of vocational training was a key talking point at the 2016 Training Providers Forum held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre recently.

The annual two-day event was a great professional development and networking opportunity for people involved in the planning, delivery and assessment of vocational education and training (VET) in Western Australia.

Department of Training and Workforce Development Sector Capability Manager and Training Providers Forum co-organiser Janice Calcei said this year's themes were national training package reforms, good teaching and assessment practice in VET, compliance and regulation and innovation and technology.

"The forum is a great opportunity for people involved in the VET system to get together and learn about the latest examples of good practice in the sector," Janice said.

"We had positive feedback from delegates about our new format, which included three topical panel discussions where subject experts shared a range of views and opinions about the training sector at a State, national and student level and encouraged audience participation.

"We also ran 34 workshops on a range of subjects, which included lecturing via webinar, information about compliance and VET regulation, leadership and training package development. Many workshop sessions were packed, particularly those which related to compliance and regulation.

"The forum was also a chance to network, with VET managers and practitioners from various private and public registered training organisations sharing ideas and strengthening links."

More than 400 delegates attended in person and online, from private and public training providers, Industry Training Councils, skills services organisations, schools, universities and other government agencies.

A number of workshop resources and presenter videos will still be available from vetinfonet.dtwd.wa.gov.au/tpf.
The website also contains resources from the 2015 and 2014 forums.



 Deputy Premier and Department of Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey addresses the crowd at the 2016 Training Providers Forum.



 Logistics Training Council Senior Consultant Norma Nisbet ready to greet delegates to the training council's exhibition booth.



^ The student perspective panel from L-R: YouthFocus Chief Executive Officer Fiona Kalaf, 2014 WA School Based Apprentice of the Year Taylor Wood, 2015 Australian Apprentice (Trainee) of the Year Sandra Van Der Gaag and 2015 Australian Apprentice of the Year Jared Stone.

Training with Scope

Scope Training is a niche Western Australian registered training organisation which provides training solutions to the corporate market.

These include courses in project management, health and safety, training and assessment, business operations, leadership and management.

Scope's Chief Executive Officer Jessica Pitt said the organisation delivered training with a unique style and energy and their guiding principal was 'training to suit your needs'.

"Our vision is to raise the standards of corporate training and provide an alternative to university programs," Jessica said.

"We focus on understanding the needs of the client/student and design a package or product that fits."

The company was recognised for its commitment to training in 2015, winning the WA Small Training Provider of the Year at the WA Training Awards.

Scope starts with finding out what would be of most benefit to each learner.

"From customised programs for organisations to an individual's needs, there is no single path to success. We say yes and we find a way to make it work," Jessica said.

"One of our clients' recently called us 'nimble', which I think describes us well."

Scope provides a blended delivery of workshops, recognition of prior learning (RPL) and online learning, and over the past year has worked hard to improve their online learning experience for students.

"We have developed our own resources, launched a new online platform and made short videos for each of our units," Jessica said.

"Students can log in and watch a video while using public transport,



^ Trainer Nic Thomas delivering a Scope Training workshop.

attend face to face workshops, meet their trainer at a café to discuss the RPL evidence process or attend a customised workshop in their workplace.

"We train anywhere and everywhere. We have delivered public and corporate courses in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Victoria, as well as the Solomon Islands, and actively work in regional areas of WA, such as the Kimberley, Pilbara, Goldfields and Great Southern."

One of Scope's fundamental measures of success is the improvement delivered to its clients, measured by workplace knowledge and staff expertise.

"Training is an investment and an organisation should see returns," Jessica said.

For Scope, 2016 has so far been a year of innovation which would continue into 2017.

"We are working on our RPL experience and our online learning platform, with the aim to make online learning an alternative to attending workshops," Jessica said.

"We also publish online content free of charge every Thursday on our YouTube channel. These videos answer a commonly asked question or explain a topic. We will also launch a new, cutting edge project management framework soon, so stay tuned."



^ Conservation and Land Management student Marcus Randall found the revegetation project at Salmon Holes practical and rewarding.



 Students installing coconut fibre matting on eroded dunes at Salmon Holes in the Torndirrup National Park near Albany.

Students bring new life to dunes

Conservation and Land Management students from South Regional TAFE have helped save an area of sand dunes at one of Albany's idyllic beaches.

Erosion was threatening the stability of the dunes at Salmon Holes in the Torndirrup National Park west of Albany.

Lecturer Terry Madden said the restoration project carried out by the students would ensure environmental benefits for years to come.

"This project has brought pride and satisfaction as well as practical experience for the students," he said.

"Preparation began in the classroom, with work health and safety training and an introduction to botany. We also had units on how to maintain natural areas and the finer points of erosion, sediment control and propagation of native plants."

The project took three months and

started with fencing off the steep, eroded area. Coconut matting was then installed, which will remain in place while revegetation is underway.

66

This project has brought pride and satisfaction as well as practical experience for the students.

Seeds from adjacent native plants – including the woolly bush, peppermint, wattle, westringia, sword grass, pigface and banksia – were sown and will grow within the matting. Being a natural fibre, the

matting will eventually decompose, with no detrimental effect to the environment.

"This was an excellent project for students to gain an understanding of the industry they are training for," Terry said. "It has given them a good idea of the sort of work that is in front of them."

Student Marcus Randall appreciated the chance to work on the project.

"It gave us a lot of practical experience in the field," Marcus said. "It was also rewarding work."

The project was a collaborative effort between the Department of Parks and Wildlife and South Regional TAFE, with funding from the Department of Planning's Coast West initiative.

Education key to opportunities

The Kimberley Workforce Development Centre (WDC) strives to make a difference in the lives of the people it services and provides free career advice from offices in Broome and Kununurra.

The WDC is run by the Wunan Foundation, an Aboriginal development organisation founded in 1997 by Ian Trust, who is the foundation's Executive Chairman.

WDC Manager-Education Programs Anthony Becker said Ian was appointed chair of the Western Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council late last year, an appointment that would bring long term benefits to the people of the region.

"lan's position will help strengthen Wunan's existing networks and forge new ones," he said. "It also acknowledges Wunan's work as a key contributor to reforms that have improved the quality of life for Aboriginal people in the Kimberley region of WA.

"People know that through Wunan things get done. Education is the key to Wunan's vision for the region and the WDC supports that.

"Education that leads to employment is the cornerstone of what we do."

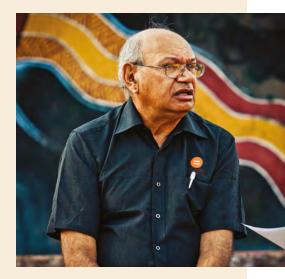
Anthony said Wunan aimed to help people out of the welfare cycle and into the workforce and had several programs to help achieve this.

"An example is the East Kimberley Transitional Housing Program, which helps Aboriginal people transition into supported housing and develop a pathway into home ownership," he said. "To participate, people must be employed and meet several key conditions, which include paying rent, maintaining their homes and sending their children to school every day.

"My job here also allows me to link people with the WDC's services. I manage a number of programs that provide real opportunities to engage young Aboriginal people and their families in education, which can open up a world of possibilities."

Anthony said the WDC also supported the influx of transient workers who travelled to the Kimberley looking for work.

"We have strong links with employment providers in both the East and West Kimberley," Anthony said. "People come in and see us when they are up here for seasonal work – particularly in the agriculture sector in the East Kimberley and hospitality in the West Kimberley."



A lan Trust, Executive Chairman of the Wunan Foundation.

Australian Institute of Certified Practising Trainers

The Australian Institute of Certified Practising Trainers (AICPT) is a professional membership organisation for training practitioners.

AICPT is committed to quality service, integrity, professionalism and professional development for its members nationally and internationally.

Services to members include a Certified Practising Trainer assessment program, education, training, technical support and advocacy. Staff and members also work with local and international bodies to represent the views and concerns of the training practitioner profession to governments, regulators, industries, academia and the general public.

For individual membership and corporate membership details

please visit aicpt.org.au or email membership@aicpt.org.au.



Renowned academy boosts hospitality training

Renowned international academy Le Cordon Bleu is preparing to welcome its first intake of Western Australian hospitality and tourism students in Perth.

Degree programs in Convention and Event Management and Tourism Management will be delivered in collaboration with North Metropolitan TAFE, enhancing the State's role as a key tourism and hospitality hub.

Premier and Tourism Minister Colin Barnett and Deputy Premier and Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey joined Le Cordon Bleu Chief Operations Officer Derrick Casey to launch the partnership and degree programs.

Mr Barnett said the partnership had come about at an important time for WA as tourism and hospitality emerged as key industries for the State's economic development.

"The accommodation and food services industry is an important

source of employment for the State, accounting for 6.6 per cent of WA's total workforce in 2015," he said.

"The addition of Le Cordon Bleu's world-class training to North Metropolitan TAFE will ensure we are at the forefront of skills development in the tourism and hospitality industry.



These students will be training in the cultural and hospitality heart of Perth.

"The degree programs will also support the growth of international education in WA and promote Perth as a great place to study and work."

Mrs Harvey said students enrolled in both Bachelor of Business qualifications would start their studies at the North Metropolitan TAFE Northbridge campus next year.

"These students will be training in the cultural and hospitality heart of Perth, enabling them to observe what opportunities can arise from their chosen field of study," she said.

"As a world leader in culinary and hospitality education, Le Cordon Bleu produces graduates who are highly sought after by industry. This will be an exciting opportunity for those people who have a passion to establish a rewarding career in this sector.

"The recently established North Metropolitan TAFE introduces a new dimension to the partnership. Specialised hospitality programs delivered from the Joondalup campus will strengthen training opportunities and allow the State's tourism and hospitality industry to thrive."



 North Metropolitan TAFE interim Managing Director Michelle Hoad, Le Cordon Bleu Chief Operating Officer Derrick Casey and Premier and Tourism Minister Colin Barnett at the launch of the partnership between Le Cordon Bleu and North Metropolitan TAFE.

Work experience leads to traineeship

Business trainee Emmah Marwick is an example of how using the services of a Workforce Development Centre (WDC) can lead to a full time job.

Emmah is now the first point of contact for others seeking assistance at Worklink in Albany, which is home to the local WDC.

Worklink's Business Development Coordinator Katrina Hancock said Emmah's first experience with the office was during work placement when she was still at high school.

"The knowledge she gained here while on work experience opened up a world of possibilities for Emmah," Katrina said. "Using the services and career guidance of the WDC, she sourced a business traineeship with a local insurance broker after she finished school and completed a Certificate II in Business.

"She has since joined our office as a full time administrative assistant and is working towards a Certificate III in Business. "Part of Emmah's role includes customer service – welcoming and introducing clients to the WDC and Worklink's other services."

Worklink is a community focused not for profit organisation with offices in Albany, Esperance and Kalgoorlie. Key services at each location include providing training solutions, career guidance and room hire.

"We are also a nationally recognised registered training organisation and deliver a range of accredited and non-accredited training options for business and individuals," Katrina said.

"The WDC services we provide are funded by the Department of Training and Workforce Development and are complementary to our training delivery.

"We assist individuals of any age and stage in their lives to make educational, training and occupational choices to manage their careers."



 Trainee Emmah Marwick is the first point of contact at the Workforce Development Centre in Albany.



Make your message matter

Advertise in Training Matters – WA's premier training sector magazine

Three issues per year distributed both in print and electronically to TAFE campuses, registered training organisations, VET practitioners, industry advisory groups and other key personnel within the field.

Call **6551 5612** or email **trainingmatters@dtwd.wa.gov.au**



Skills West Expo 2016

One of the State's biggest annual career, education, training and employment events will be on again at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre from 12 to 14 August.

Skills West Expo is free to the public and will feature up to 100 exhibitors from a wide range of industries, including hospitality, construction, healthcare, aviation, fitness, community services, manufacturing, defence, retail, ICT, education and training, financial and insurance services.

A range of organisations, employers and educational bodies will showcase their career, education and training opportunities to thousands of high school students and visitors looking to learn new skills or brush up on existing ones

Visitors can also take a closer look at the five Western Australian TAFE colleges at the new TAFE Choices stand. Recent changes to the public training sector in WA have reinforced the colleges' ability to work collaboratively, delivering the best outcomes for students and strengthening training in the regions.

Event Manager Melissa Clendinen said many students attended the event on the Friday and took their parents back on the weekend.

"In addition to the information stands we will have several interactive Try'aSkill activities placed throughout pavilion three," she said.

"These hands-on activities are always popular with young people and this year there will be a range of trade and skills areas zoned by industry, such as hospitality, construction, automotive and engineering."

Visitors can also watch apprentices and trainees demonstrate their skills in preparation for the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in a few months' time. The Skills West Expo atmosphere and venue will provide a valuable opportunity for the members of Team WA to practice under simulated competition conditions.

WA Police have been regular exhibitors at the Expo for several years.

Police Recruiting Executive Manager Nicole Ades said it provided a chance for prospective applicants to find out more about the interesting and varied career choices available.

"A career in policing is an option that can appeal to young people and individuals from a variety of cultural backgrounds and differing walks of life," she said. "For those who feel they have what it takes, step forward and visit us at the Police Recruiting stand."

Skills West Expo is an initiative of The West Australian newspaper and Seven West Media, in partnership with the State Government. Look out for the comprehensive guide published by The West Australian and distributed across the State in the lead up to the event.

Skillswestexpo.com.au ™



 Ever thought of joining the WA Police? Visit their stand at Skills West Expo to find out about the recruitment process.



Deputy Premier and Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey visits the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre stand at the 2015 Skills West Expo. With the Minister are Department of Training and Workforce Development Service Delivery Strategy Director Phil Wyles and Senior Project Officer Nate Stuart.



State Soil Archive to be based at Muresk Institute

Muresk Institute will become home to thousands of soil samples from the Kimberley to the State's south coast, with the development of a State Soil Archive.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed earlier this year between the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA) and the Department of Training and Workforce Development to establish the archive.

More than 150 000 soil specimens collected from around the State will be housed in a specially refurbished building located at the Institute near Northam.

DAFWA Grains Research and Development Transformation Executive Director Mark Sweetingham said it was important to preserve the collection as part of the State's heritage and for future research.

"Archived soil specimens like these are invaluable 'time capsules' which enable us to assess changes in soil properties over time, particularly as new analysis techniques become available," Dr Sweetingham said.

"This will be a living library which will be added to so scientists can continue to learn about the soils that sustain WA's agricultural and food sector." The archive will be administered by DAFWA and is part of the \$20 million Boosting Grains Research and Development project funded by Royalties for Regions.

Refurbishment work on a 500 square metre building has started and the archive will be formally launched later this year.

Muresk Institute General Manager Prue Jenkins said it was an honour to host the collection. "Students studying at the Institute will get great benefit from this resource, as soils are the foundation for many of the courses delivered here," she said.

"Having ready access to the archive will give students a practical insight into the complexities and characteristics of the State's soils and enhance their ability to use this knowledge."



 Muresk Institute General Manager Prue Jenkins and Department of Agriculture and Food Executive Director Dr Mark Sweetingham look forward to the establishment of the State Soil Archive at Northam.

VETinfoNet site decommissioned

The VETinfoNet website was decommissioned on 1 July and all content has been moved to various locations on the Department of Training and Workforce Development website.

The move ensures information about the Department's core functions and policies relevant to registered training organisations is available in one location. Content about professional development for vocational education and training practitioners, nominal hours guides and training products can be found in the Training Providers section and VET in Schools information

has been transferred to the Employees and Students section.



 WA Dohne Breeders Association member Ian Hanna, Muresk Institute General Manager Prue Jenkins, Royal Flying Doctor Service representative Adrian Roocke and WA Dohne Breeders Association President Rhys Parsons.

Open Day draws a crowd

The drone technology display was a highlight for many visitors to the recent Muresk Institute Open Day.

Hundreds of people, including prospective students and their families, enjoyed a day out in the country to attend the event, which showcased new technologies and techniques in the agricultural industry.

Muresk Institute General Manager Prue Jenkins said the open day was also a chance for visitors to discover exciting careers available in the agriculture sector and help raise community awareness of the activities at the Institute.

"Strong interest was shown in the wide range of courses delivered at Muresk, including those for 2017," she said.

"Enrolments for our 2016 winter school are exceeding expectations and training providers will increase the number of qualifications and short courses available in 2017 due to public demand

"A lot of work has been done in recent years to re-establish Muresk Institute as a centre of specialisation and improve the perception of agriculture and agribusiness careers.

"This work has been supported by a \$20 million investment through the State Government's Royalties for Regions program."

The event also put the spotlight on a partnership between Muresk Institute and the WA Dohne Breeders Association, which donated 200 commercial ewes last year.

Under the agreement, proceeds of the sale of the first wool clip shorn from the ewes would be donated to charity. Representatives from *beyondblue* and the Royal Flying Doctor Service were presented with a share of more than \$4 570 raised from five bales of wool sold at auction.

Demonstrations and displays took place throughout the campus and farm grounds, with a focus on agriculture technology, quad bikes, low stress livestock handling and working sheep dogs. Renowned butcher Vince Garreffa also entertained the crowd with a demonstration of his skills.

"We were honoured to have Western Australia's Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO open the event. There was also an address from Science Ambassador Professor Lyn Beazley, highlighting the importance of science in agriculture," Ms Jenkins said.

Current students had 'meet and greet' duties, took registrations and helped with the campus tour, while staff from various training providers took queries about courses they offered, such as the Integrated Diploma Program, Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management, vet nursing, short courses and skill sets.

For more information about courses available at Muresk Institute visit dtwd.wa.gov.au/mureskinstitute or call 1800 994 031. ™



^ Master butcher Vince Garreffa during his demonstration.



^ Kalyx Australia's trial plot harvester on display.



^ First year Bachelor of Agribusiness Management student Courtney Ciffolilli.



 Boyd Holden takes a quad bike through its paces on the main oval.



 Central Regional TAFE's Judi Forsyth and Suresh Job at the college's stand.



^ Duncan Anderson and his dog Bouncer put on a display of working dog skills.

Professional Development Calendar 2016

The Department of Training and Workforce Development offers vocational education and training practitioners a range of professional development opportunities. This includes various teaching, learning and assessment workshops, e-learning and general information sessions.

Workshops are offered either face-toface or online with additional overview webinars available for many topics.

An example of workshops and webinars available for second semester 2016 includes:

- Standards for RTOs (2015) explained;
- Copyright, referencing and plagiarism;

- Advanced facilitation;
- Designing assessment tools;
- E-assessment;
- Digital preservation;
- E-book creation;
- Understanding the Australian VET system;
- Instructional design- writing for online;

- RPL principles- implementation;
- Quality assurance for RTOs; and
- workshops on LMS Moodle and LMS Blackboard.

For full program details or to register for a workshop or webinar, please visit https://event360.dtwd.wa.gov.au/event-calendar or email pd.sector. capability@dtwd.wa.gov.au

Branch facts – TAFE International Western Australia

TAFE International Western Australia (TIWA) is responsible for the recruitment and admission of international students studying at any one of the State's TAFE colleges.

Students can choose from a wide variety of courses offered by the TAFE colleges before applying through TIWA.

The branch also manages the placement and fee collection of overseas students into public schools, in line with the Department of Education's Enrolment of Overseas Students Schedule.

TIWA's head office is located at the Customer Service Centre at Level 7, 3 Forrest Place, Perth.

The branch was formerly known as Education and Training International, with the name change taking effect on 11 April. This is in line with changes to the TAFE system in WA. Visit tafeinternational.wa.edu.au to find out more.





 International students apply through TIWA to study in Western Australia.

A collaborative approach

The annual Training Providers Forum is an important event in the Department of Training and Workforce Development calendar.

While the two days of the forum are always vibrant, there is a huge amount of planning in the preceding months to make sure that the professional development needs of those in the vocational education and training sector are well addressed.

The general approach for the conference program in previous years has been a format of plenary keynote addresses followed by concurrent presentations. The plenary speakers are always learned and entertaining. Having attended some six such conferences in previous years, however, I suggested that it was time we tried a different approach for the 2016 Conference, which was held in May at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

We used the two days to explore three key themes: national directions, student perspectives and training products. And instead of having just three keynote speakers to present on these issues, we went for a more collaborative approach. Feedback from previous years about panel presentations had been extremely positive, so we looked at a wider approach of getting subjects explored by a range of experts, rather than having single presenters speaking for long periods.

The first presentation for the forum was a discussion on Competition, the Federation and Quality: where to from here? We were privileged to have two former Attorneys General on the panel – the Hon Cheryl Edwardes and the Hon Michael Lavarch. Both of these presenters also have extensive knowledge and experience in the training sector. The other two speakers were Rod Camm, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Council of Private Education and Training, and our own Simon Walker, Executive Director of Policy, Planning and Innovation at DTWD, who has extensive experience in working in the federal arena. Between them, the four speakers all known for their strong views – explored the current Commonwealth and State VET environment.

It was a pretty stimulating discussion. This ranged from where the current COAG agenda was likely to land to the question of harmonisation and the issue of maintaining integrity in the sector. For example, while harmonisation of training throughout the Federation is frequently seen as the holy grail of quality and consistent national training, how far do we want to harmonise and at what cost? At what point do we give up local responsiveness in favour of a nationally consistent approach? And how do we maintain competition without losing the integrity of the sector?

A panel on the second day of the forum explored the new arrangements for training product development with equality stimulating thoughts and discussion. It is always refreshing to ask for people's opinions – and to get them.

The absolute highlight of the two day event for me was the second panel presentation on Monday, where YouthFocus CEO Fiona Kalaf, 2015 Australian Apprentice of the Year Jared Stone, 2015 Australian Apprentice (Trainee) of the Year Sandra Van Der Gaag and 2014 WA School Based Apprentice of the Year Taylor Wood presented their thoughts and ideas on "Student perspectives on VET improving the student experience". It was an amazing, informed and emotional session. Rather than giving you my older person's perspective, let me "re-tweet" some of the audience comments: "Incredible adventure of Sandra Van Der Gaag"; "Jared Stone from dropping out of school to Apprentice of the Year – a reminder of why we do this"; "Really interesting ideas from the youth panel"; "Students in VET say – being available and accessible to students needing help outside of their studies without stigma makes a difference". What a session!

As always, I spoke informally to many participants about the new format, and asked what they thought. The overwhelming view was that the panel presentations were fantastic: better than



Department of Training and Workforce Development Director General Ruth Shean.

single keynote addresses. They gave us a chance to explore topics in detail and to listen to different and occasionally very divergent views. Next year we need to allow more time though for the audience to participate through questions.

For those who didn't get to the forum in person or via webinar, check out the resources still available from vetinfonet. dtwd.wa.gov.au/tpf to listen to the stimulating presentations not just from the panel presenters, but also the concurrent presenters.

If you have some ideas, please let us know in the next few months, and we'll include these in our thoughts for 2017.

So, thanks to everyone who made this forum the huge success that it was: to the Minister for her highly analytical comments about regulation, training packages and VET Fee Help and also to the panellists, concurrent presenters, exhibitors, conference planning team, staff and students who helped on the front desk and most of all, to the participants. It was a great forum and your sincere and energetic contributions made it so.

Dr Ruth SheanDirector General

Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre

Engaging - Connecting - Enabling - Transitioning

Jobs board: click and connect

The jobs board is the easiest way for employers and business owners to connect with Aboriginal jobseekers – and it's free.

- Simple registration process.
- Create and post your advert free of charge.
- Connect with a network of Aboriginal jobseekers across Western Australia.
- Secure government website.

How to use the jobs board:

Non-Government Agencies

Register at www.dtwd.wa.gov.au/awdc/jobsboard

Use your account to:

- · create a vacancy using our easy online form;
- advertise free of charge on the AWDC jobs board;
- · view previous advertisements; and
- · update your agency's details.

Government Agencies

No need to register!

Use your existing RAMS account:

- select the AWDC check box when posting to JobsWA; and
- Aboriginal jobseekers can apply online via the AWDC jobs board.



