

Messages from the ACFE Board

Congratulations to all 2011 Victorian Learn Local Award nominees and finalists - fantastic achievement by all involved! Winners will be announced at the awards luncheon Tuesday 6 September 2011. For a full list of finalists please go to www.acfe.vic.gov.au.

Sincere thanks also to those Learn Local organisations who spoke to and/or made submissions to the Governments review of VET fees and funding. The Essential Services Commission will report to Government in late 2011, with a further opportunity for providers and the public to comment on findings and recommendations.

Communications and Marketing Training

As most of you are aware, the training team from Royce Communications and various ACFE staff members have been on the road providing Communications and Marketing Training to Learn Local organisations across Victoria.

For those who have attended, remember the toolkit used in the training session is available on the [wiki](#). If you are looking to [register](#), do so quickly as places are going fast!

Learn Local success stories - Kyabram Community and Learning Centre (KCLC)

Kyabram Community and Learning Centre (KCLC) recently launched a joint campaign to promote Learn Local in conjunction with local businesses.

MYCARD encourages consumers to 'Learn Local, Shop Local' for their goods and services – enticing people to shop locally in Kyabram before visiting another town. The participating businesses set their own level of discount or benefit and inform customers when they present their loyalty card.

Enrolled students at KCLC are thrilled with the concept and businesses are signing up one after the other. Tom Ellis, Marketing Manager at KCLC, believes the MYCARD to be a sustainable business initiative – 'these links are crucial and the new Learn Local approach fits beautifully - the exciting thing is the capacity building it is doing for us; we are analysing business needs and offering local learning opportunities'.

Check us out on



or our [website](#)

or on the [Learn Local Wiki](#)

Recent Memos

[Click on this link to read the memos:](#)

- ACFE's move to Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
- ACFE Vic Government e-mentor Project: Invitation to participate
- EFT Remittance Advice to Learn Local Providers
- ACE Professional Learning Workshops offered July to December by the TAFE Development Centre

[Click on this link to read the Capacity Initiatives memos.](#)

- ACE Business Capacity Program workshops for non-RTO Learn Local Providers – Registration Open
- Improve Governance in the Learn Local Sector
- Business Mentoring for Learn Local organisations: Further Opportunity to Access a Mentor

Important Dates

(state-wide only)

Monday 29 August – Applications close, ACFE Board Capacity & Innovation Fund 2011

1 – 8 September – Adult Learners Week

Tuesday 6 September - 2011 Victorian Learn Local Awards presentation luncheon

Interesting Statistics

Over 50% of enrolments in 2010 were in short initial training courses (non-award or module-only programs). On average, learners in these courses undertook less than 50 hours of training.

About 22% of enrolments were in Certificate level I and II courses involving about 150 hours of training.

Nearly 20% of enrolments were in Certificate levels III and IV courses involving about 300 contact hours.



GREAT USE OF LEARN LOCAL POSTERS AND FLIERS – TAKEN AT TRARALGON NEIGHBOURHOOD LEARNING HOUSE

Gearing up to learn!

In July, the Geelong Advertiser showcased an uplifting story about Connor Dixon, a 16 year old boy from Lara. It talked about his achievement in Geelong's newly revamped youth training program 'You Turn'. The program is driven by Diversitat and offers automotive skills training for at risk young people struggling with mainstream education.

Connor says 'I don't really like going to school because I have trouble in an environment where I'm just sitting there and writing things, I really enjoy working with my hands and I love cars. This has been good – I've really got into it'.

Connor has taken on two VET courses at Corio Bay Senior College and is expected to undertake work experience with a local mechanic.

This program is a great opportunity for young people who are looking to develop their skills in a trade they enjoy.

Access and Equity Grants Program 2011

Congratulations to the three Learn Local organisations who successfully received a Skills Victoria Access and Equity Grant, worth approximately \$100,000 each.

CAE in partnership with Hanover Welfare Services are developing a project to support people experiencing homelessness and help them to re-engage with education and training and move through to further study or employment.

Continuing Education Bendigo in conjunction with Radius Disability Services will be developing a trade assistants 'training pathway model' for young people with a disability in the construction industry.

Students will be assisted to move from supported to open employment through the Certificate I in Manufacturing Pathways and Certificate I in Work Education.

Morrison's project in conjunction with Anchor Youth and Family Services will support young people disengaged from mainstream education by developing a service model around integrated housing, support and educational service.

Support for Learn Local Committees of Management

The 'Improved Governance in the Learn Local Sector' project is one of a suite of ACFE Capacity Initiative Projects aimed at improving the capabilities of Learn Local Organisations in the training environment.

This particular project looks at providing Committee of Management members with a framework and relevant tools to manage their education and training activities more effectively in a competitive skills delivery environment.

Representatives from ACE Vic, Community Colleges Australia, Learn Local Committees of Management, the office for the Community Sector and DEECD are supporting the development of the framework tools. Please feel free to talk to them or Jenny Newcombe if you wish to have input at this stage. A survey of all Committees of Management will be taking place in September to seek Committee of Management views on key issues.

Business Mentoring for Learn Local organisations

Once again, Small Business Mentoring Service (SBMS) have agreed to deliver free mentoring sessions to Learn Local organisations. The business world is constantly evolving and SBMS can help you move with it by providing assistance with marketing, financial and strategic planning, personnel systems / processes plus much more. This really is a fantastic opportunity to further develop your organisation – so get on board!

[Register now](#) – type ACED in the voucher code section and follow the prompts.

For more information on SBMS visit www.sbms.org.au



LEARN LOCAL ORGANISATIONS ENJOYING THE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING TRAINING AT bestCHANCE IN GLEN WAVERLEY



Learner Matters Network

Forum No 3

The Third Learner Matters Forum provided an overview of ACFE funded research *Responding to CALD Learners in 2011: Action Research Projects*. Twenty-four providers attended this session on 23 August. Jude Newcombe, the project officer, provided an overview of the eight projects across the state. The main focus of these projects was on engagement and supporting of learning environments

There are three projects in the NWMR region and two were presented at the Forum.

Sue Paull from the Diamond Valley Learning Centre presented their project about engagement. The research documents effective methods of identifying CALD communities and community leaders and effective methods of attracting new CALD learners in areas of new settlement.

Tina Vlahos from PRACE discussed how to support the CALD learners for the Certificate 2 in Cleaning Operations. Previously CALD applicants for this course had been assessed as not having the prerequisite language and literacy skills. The research examines how to best support the development of skills needed for successful completion of the course.

Participants gained some valuable insights into strategies to engage with CALD learners. A summary of all projects across the state will be available when they are completed. If you are interested in reading research overviews please go to <http://www.skills.vic.gov.au/learnlocal-acfe/acfe-publications-and-research/acfe-publications-and-research>.

Capacity Projects

Regional Information

North Western Metropolitan Region LGA Forums Series II

“What’s Hot & What’s not?”

The second round of LGA Forums, have now been completed across the NWM Region. In these forums we asked you to provide us with local intelligence around opportunities you are accessing and risks and/or challenges you are facing.

Congratulations to the RTO’s who have increased their delivery this year particularly those who are operating in growth corridors. It was great to hear about the variety for partnerships you are creating which in turn create pathways for learners. It was also great to hear about the curriculum development happening.

We are encouraged to hear so many of you are grouping together to address the challenges of the new market place, particularly where you are adopting shared service approaches and co-operative arrangements between RTO’s and smaller Learn Local organisations.

The main issues you identified included the impact of:

- Eligibility
- Competition
- Staffing , particularly ESL teachers
- Increasing referrals from agencies dealing with people with a disability.

As advised in these sessions your feedback is addressed at NWM Regional Council meetings.