

## Welcome to the first edition

We hope you enjoy the first monthly Learn Local e-newsletter and it becomes a valuable (and fun!) resource and communication method for all Learn Local organisations.



The newsletter will mainly contain information of importance to all Learn Local organisations, with a section on the back to be region-specific. If you have any feedback and/or suggestions, please let us know via the [wiki](#) or [email](#).

## Message from the ACFE Board

Round 2 of the Adult Community Further Education (ACFE) Board Capacity and Innovation Fund grants is now open! There is a total of almost \$3 million available for Learn Local organisations in this final round for 2011. [Grant guidelines and the application form](#) are now available to download on the ACFE website. Applications close on Monday, 29 August.

The Board invites general feedback on the fund or guidelines. Contact your ACFE Regional office for more information.

## ACFE Capacity Initiatives

The ACFE Capacity Initiatives are continuing throughout 2011. Around 75% of Learn Local organisations have participated in the initiatives since they began in 2009. Following your feedback in 2010, the subsequent programs are in effect:

- The Small Business Mentor Program is still running through the Small Business Mentoring Service. This is fully funded by ACFE. Managers at Learn Local organisations are strongly encouraged to take up this opportunity. To register for the program online visit: [www.sbms.org.au](http://www.sbms.org.au)
- A-Frame teacher and resource development is continuing, with the CAE running workshops.  
\*See Important Dates section of this newsletter for workshops.
- Action Research projects are being coordinated by AMES as part of the Responding to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners initiative.
- In other news the ACE Business Capacity and Knowledge workshops run by CWCC are being offered for: large RTOs, small RTOs (both finished) and pre-accredited only providers (to be announced). Also a new project with a focus on assisting management committees is being conducted by The Nous Group. Finally, Smart Delivery Grant recipients will complete their projects in July, the outcomes will be shared in the next newsletter.

## Check us out on



or our [website](#)

or on the [Learn Local Wiki](#)

## Recent ACE Memos

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

- Communications and Marketing Training
- ACFE Board Capacity & Innovation Fund Round 2

## Important Dates

**July / August** – Cut off dates for enrolling in Communications & Marketing Training

**7 July, Southern Metro** – Big Day Out, Dingley Village

**22 July, ACFE** - CALD Action Research Workshops, Melbourne

**26 July, Grampians** – A-Frame Workshops, Wimmera

**26 July, North Western Metropolitan** – ACE provider LGA forum, Hobson's Bay, Maribyrnong, Brimbank and Wyndham

**28 July, North Western Metropolitan** – ACE provider LGA forum, Banyule, Nillumbik and Whittlesea, West Heidelberg

**29 July, Gippsland** – A-Frame workshops, Bairnsdale

**29 August, Round 2 Capacity and Innovation Fund** – Closing date

**August** – Learn Local Awards Finalists announced

## Interesting Statistics

In 2010, 81% of learners in the Learn Local education and training sector experienced disadvantage because of location, prior educational attainment, economic or social circumstances, with 20% of learners experiencing simultaneously three or more of these characteristics of disadvantage. (2010 ACFE Data Pack)



*Gippsland Learn Local representatives are on board with the new brand, displaying their Certificates of Recognition at the recent forum in Moe.*

## Learn Local success stories

### Branding

Since its launch in April this year, Learn Local has been well received by providers, government bodies and organisations across Victoria. Its creation has motivated several Learn Local organisations to promote to the wider community and utilise the co-branding – we have been so impressed that we wanted to showcase these efforts.

- Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre recently developed stylish name badges co-branding with the ANHLC and Learn Local logos. These badges were produced by LaTrobe Valley Enterprises, an innovative employer of people with disabilities, which was recommended by Sale Neighbourhood House. More community sector groups should support this wonderful organisation.
- Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House and Learning Centre (WNHLC) recently [joined Facebook](#) to attract more young people by promoting events aimed at local youths. WNHLC initially became friends with their younger students but once the students had 'accepted', WNHLC was automatically promoted to their students' Facebook friends and so on. WNHLC now have 66 friends after only being on Facebook for one month. And most of these are WNHLC's target market: youth under the age of 20 years.

Statistically the biggest users of Facebook in Australia are generation Y; the over 30's being the fastest developing market and women being dominantly represented in all age groups – anecdotally, youth and at-home-mums are the most active users and these are two of our target markets.

Try targeting a Facebook campaign using your organisation's page. Remember to 'like' other organisations and people in your community. It is a great way to promote your organisation to the wider community ... and it's free!

### Partnering with businesses

Vertech Hume Pty Ltd recently employed five men from the Karen ethnic group to work in their factory operating specialised machinery. To help improve these employees' spoken and written English Vertech chose to enlist the services of Learn Local organisation, Wyndham Community and Education Centre to develop and deliver training in the workplace that it is tailored to the specific needs of staff.

Students learn to read basic technical machinery and operations text and relevant OH&S materials while completing units out of the Certificate I in ESL (Access).

Vertech is extremely happy with the results of this training partnership – increased capacity and involvement from staff, confidence, safety and community engagement outside of the workplace – and is planning further educational opportunities for staff.

### Regional Information

Please send us your comments on the new standardised newsletters. Loddon Mallee are trialling the use of a weekly email rather than send numerous emails throughout the week. The weekly email does not replace the newsletter. Both the newsletter and the weekly emails contain important information for all providers.

A reminder to all providers who are developing Capacity & Innovation Fund applications to contact regional office to discuss their projects. We are expecting a lot of last minute phone calls so it would be best to contact us now and we can make an appointment if necessary.

