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| Higher Education and Skills Group**Participation Branch Memo****Department of Education and Training** |

***NUMBER: 2016 / 04 / 21***

**TO:**

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| Learn Local organisations *– ALL*  | Learn Local stakeholders  | ACFE Regional Councils |
| Adult Education Institutions | Participation Branch staff |  |

**FROM:** Ryan Collins, A/Director, Participation Branch

**DATE:** 21 April 2016

**SUBJECT: 2016 Victorian Training Awards – Nominations close in two weeks**

**ACTIONS / CRITICAL DATES:**

* *Nominations close for 2016 Victorian Training Awards on Friday 6 May.*
* *Victorian Community Training Provider Award category only for Learn Local organisations - $10,000 prize money available.*
* *Nomination information available at* <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/awards/Pages/vta.aspx>

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Nominations for the 2016 Victorian Training Awards will close in less than two weeks on Friday 6 May.

The ACFE Board is proud to again be sponsoring the *Victorian Community Provider of the Year Award* category this year, specifically for Learn Local organisations that were registered with the ACFE Board to deliver pre-accredited training during 2015. This Award recognises and celebrates the exceptional work of Learn Local organisations in developing skills and confidence among those facing barriers to education.

This is a great opportunity to promote your organisation and the sector and all Learn Local organisations that are breaking down barriers for students are encouraged to apply. The winning organisation will receive a $10,000 prize.

In 2015, Nhill Learning Centre won this Award and as a result received significant promotional opportunities including:

* Department of Education: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/awards/Pages/vtawinandfin2015.aspx>
* Victorian Government: <http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/2015-victorian-training-awards-winners-announced/>
* The Weekly Advertiser: <http://www.theweeklyadvertiser.com.au/2015/09/02/nhill-centre-wins-state-training-award/>
* The Wimmera Mail Times: <http://www.mailtimes.com.au/story/3318895/learning-centre-wins-big/>

Diversitat and Wellsprings for Women were well deserved finalists in 2015.

To nominate for the *Victorian Community Training Provider of the Year* award, visit <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/awards/Pages/vta.aspx> to read the criteria and submit your nomination online.

The Victorian Training Awards will be presented at a gala ceremony in Melbourne on Friday 26 August 2016.

Don’t forget:

* Learn Local organisations can still nominate for other general Victorian Training Award organisational categories and encourage students to nominate for the individual awards.
* Nominations for the ACFE Board’s 2016 Victorian Learn Local Awards close on Friday 3 June - prize money is available of up to $10,000 for winners and $1,000 for every finalist. See: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/learnlocalawards>

