

U2Uni: Pathways to higher education for regional learners

Peter Hall, Minister for Higher Education and Skills, recently announced an exciting partnership between Learn Local organisation, Mansfield Adult



L-R: Paul Sladdin (CEO MACE), Jeanette Powell, Minister for Local Government, Minister Hall, Linda Brown, Swinburne Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Director of TAFE

Continuing Education (MACE) and Swinburne University of Technology. The partnership is funded to develop the U2Uni program, an online learning model that will provide pathways into tertiary education for students in regional communities.

Mr Hall says the program delivered on the government's commitment to increase educational opportunities and quality education for rural and regional students.

"Access to tertiary education and the opportunities it offers are important to Victoria's ongoing social and economic development," he said.

Mirrimbeena AEG overcomes learning barrier for a win-win-win solution!



Clive Atkinson, left, with the Mirrimbeena Aboriginal Education Group

Mirrimbeena Aboriginal Education Group used to be faced with the problem of learners not committing to a full day of learning. A creative and radical approach has made all the difference.

Mirrimbeena AEG learners attending courses at a close-to-home location had trouble returning to the after-lunch sessions.

More on page 2.

Wiki challenge!

Add the Learn Local logo to your website homepage. Hyperlink the logo to either your course list or www.acfe.vic.gov.au



WIKI



FACEBOOK



YOUTUBE



TWITTER

Click the calendar for diary dates



FEATURES:

- Professional development
- ACFE Agreement important dates

Best practise using A-frame tools - Learner and Course Plans

five
easy
ways

1. Be consistent with module names and codes across the Learner Plan and Course Plan
2. Be succinct with writing style. Dot points are great.
3. Be specific with pathways, strategies and goals. Describe these clearly, but briefly!
4. Focus on the main goals and explain HOW they are embedded. Incidental gains in other areas are a bonus! (This is especially relevant to the employability skills questions)
5. Recognition of Learner skills can be included in the 'requirements' section. For example, it may be a requirement of a module that learners can adhere to OH&S instructions.

From page 1 – Mirrimbeena AEG

Realising this, Coordinator Clive Atkinson tackled the problem with a creative approach. He supported the purchase of a vehicle to transport learners and then moved the training to a more distant location.

The impact was immediate and positive. Learners participated in the full training session and surprisingly, this was achieved with a reduction in expenses.

“The bus has really helped” says Clive. “Attainment levels are up and the costs are down.”

By reducing rental costs and partnering with training venues for no-charge access, Clive has created a win-win-win situation. Learners benefit, the organisation benefits, and Mirrimbeena AEG has healthy active networks and partners in learning.

Spotlight on Learn Local Award Winner: *Outstanding Pre-accredited Program: Moe Life Skills*

Moe Life Skills' Theatre Studies (MLS) program for adults with an intellectual disability delivers employability and life skills through a 'non-classroom' structure. Theatre Studies targets key employability skills and delivers results for learners in content skills learning, improved confidence, self esteem and self awareness.



The "Curtains for Certain" ensemble backstage at the 2010 production.

“Winning this award gave us recognition and actually helped us to see the quality of our program,” said Luana Brock, MLS, ACFE Coordinator.

“The cash prize lets us turn our ‘if only’ ideas into reality.”

The curriculum has been further developed with equipment and specialist staff to make the learner experience even better.

The program culminates in a ticketed production by the participants as the 'Curtains for Certain' ensemble at the local town hall to a 300-strong audience.

This is the last in the series of our spotlight on winners of the [2011 Learn Local Awards](#). Be inspired to nominate for the 2012 Awards, opening soon.



WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK!

Our newsletter gets better with your input. Click on the red suggestion box to email us with your stories, provide feedback or share ideas!

Message from the ACFE Board

Many thanks to the 138 (43%) Learn Local organisations that completed the 2011 ACE Business Survey. ACFE uses the valuable information you provide in this survey in government reporting and planning and in discussions with key stakeholders.

Highlights from the survey include:

- 88% of respondents reported adding new programs while only 22% (previously 65%) reported discontinuing programs and services
- Impact of Skills Reform – 56% reported a change in demand for their programs or services

The Changing Face of Community Business 2011 report will be published and distributed in April 2012. The 2012 survey is currently in development and will open later this year.

RECENT MEMOS – click ‘em

[2012 / 04 Short Courses Victoria website decommissioning 2012](#)

Website changes may affect you

Skills Victoria is undergoing a series of changes to develop their online tools. From 30 March 2012, the Short Courses Victoria website will be diverted to [Learn Local - Find A Course Provider](#) search. Be sure that your contact details are up-to-date on this service. [General Memo 2012/4](#) has instructions on how to do this. The [TAFE and Training Line](#) will still be able to provide some course information. To make sure they have the most up to date information, email details to tafe.courseline@edumail.vic.gov.au.

ACFE TDC Scholarship Program

ACFE supported 66 Learn Local employees to complete a Certificate IV TAE or a Diploma of TAA or equivalent. The scholarships were allocated to the Learn Local sector for the period between July and December 2011.

Keep an eye out for further professional development opportunities as the year unfolds.



EASTERN METROPOLITAN REGION

Hello Everyone. It has been a busy start to the year and of course everyone is already preparing for Term 2, SVTS uploads and the many tasks that contribute to a successful Learn Local in the Eastern Region.

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the Forum recently – as always there is a lot of information to get through in a short space of time.

For those wishing to follow up on the Community Volunteer Tutor Program, contact details for Liz Round at AMES are rounde@ames.net.au or telephone her on 9926 4633.

Professional Development Opportunities

TAFE Development Centre (TDC), together with ACFE, are offering six, specific and fully funding PD Training workshops during the year. The first is on Thursday, 29th March at Glen Park Community Centre in Bayswater titled “Catering to Diverse Learners” facilitated by Trevor Bayley. For other dates please see the attachment to ACFE EMR’s *Friday’s Flyer on 9th March*.

Perhaps you would like to have your PD in the comfort of your own chair? If so, PD Online have published details for March and April – also attached to *Friday’s Flyer on 9th March*

Keep a lookout for the A-Frame Quality Assurance workshops starting in April. More information will be available in the statewide newsletter.

Are
You
Ready?

Invalid Enrolment Audit time!

Please can you ensure that all your student records are up to date and student evidence in order so that the Invalid Enrolment Audit can go as smoothly as possible!

Enrolment Activity Reports

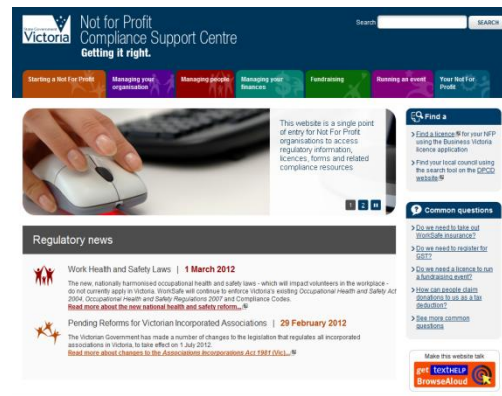
With the Quarterly Payment approaching, please email EMR (acfeemr@edumail.vic.gov.au) with your Enrolment Activity Reports.

If you have not delivered any hours, please can you still contact Tricia O’Hara by email?

ohara.patricia.p@edumail.vic.gov.au

Important dates

- **19-23 March** – Keep a lookout for the ICDL training workshops
- **22-23 March** – Last chance to register for the Non-RTOs ACE Business Capacity Program in Melbourne. Register online by going to www.cwccx1.com.au/cbp. Refer to ACFE Capacity Initiatives Memo No: XX/2012 for password details or ring EMR.
- **Friday, March 30** – Closure for acquitted expenditure statements for the Commonwealth Equipment Grant
- **Thursday 29th March**, –Professional Development Workshop at Glen Park CC



New website: A new, “one-stop shop” compliance website for not for profit organisations has been set up, with lots of useful information for the sector.

See www.nfpcompliance.vic.gov.au



Conference Dates

ANHLC – 22-23 March 2012!
www.anhlc.asn.au

Better Boards Conference – 27,28,29 July 2012
Governance, legal issues, leadership, future directions
www.betterboards.net



Thank you to everyone who sent in their expression of interest in

participating in the ACFE Board Pilot Programme on the ICDL! Our region is requesting 126 licences. The workshops are taking place in March and providers will be notified shortly as to specific dates and locations for Eastern Region.

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