



Rural and Remote Education Advisory Council



Overview of the RREAC Regional Meeting in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, October 2014

Background

The 2014 RREAC regional meeting was held in Kalgoorlie between 29-31 October in partnership with the Western Australian Aboriginal Education and Training Council. The combined meeting fostered the sharing of information between Councils and provided further insight into the issues, challenges and successes facing students, families and communities within the Goldfields region.

The meeting was reported to the Minister for Education, Hon Peter Collier MLC as part of RREAC's 2014 Annual Activity Report. An extract from that report follows:

“29-31 October - Regional Meeting in Goldfields (Kalgoorlie/Coolgardie).

Attended by the Hon Peter Collier MLC Minister for Education; Aubrey Lynch, Wongatha Goldfields Elder; Mr Kevin Doig, Managing Director Goldfields Institute; Mr Ken Perris, Regional Executive Director, Department of Education; Sarah Fletcher, Goldfields Esperance Development Commission, Mr Bill McKenzie, Goldfields Esperance Tertiary Education Alliance; Mr Darren Cooke, Goldfields Education Mining Industry Alliance Inc; Ms Chris Boase, Northern Goldfields and Industry Perspective; Kurtis Leslie, Principal Coolgardie CAPS; Mr Stephen Delfs, Principal, O'Connor Primary School, Ms Sandi Fielder, Deputy Principal, O'Connor Primary School; Ms Eloise Jansen van Vuuren, Principal, Kalgoorlie School of the Air; Mr Les Crawley, VET Coordination Goldfields / Participation Officer Esperance.

Meeting Focus:

1. Discussion with Minister Collier on the role of AIEOs; ATAs and AEWs, difference in roles across sectors. Issues, challenges; and Child and Parent Centres.
2. Combined meeting RREAC / WAAETC - discussion on session with the Hon Peter Collier Minister for Education; pathways to higher education in the Goldfields re WACE changes.
3. Goldfields Institute – historical overview; training in the Goldfields; Hall of Fame training venue; managing outreach programs; the future.
4. Overview education in the Goldfields/Esperance Education Region; issues; challenges; impact of year Sevens (7s); Cultural Awareness – school self-assessment; PALS program; Schools of the Air/School of Isolated and Distance Education; choice and access by regional students; retention of teachers; Lands Schools – success, sustainability; and, workforce management.

5. GEMIA Volunteer Alliance - Mining Industry Professional Government Agencies, Educators, Carers, Advocates and likeminded community organisation aiming to provide a coordinated approach to the interaction between the mining industry and local students and community members by bringing together key stakeholders. 4 Key Strategic Pillars - Addressing skill shortages, demonstrating local opportunity for local people; encouraging understanding of mining industry and participation of women and aboriginal people
6. Goldfields Esperance Workforce Development Alliance – Focus: education as a tool for retaining people in the town.
7. Coolgardie Christian Aboriginal Parent Directed School (CAPS) – historical growth; students; improving confidence and student self-esteem; expectations; programs; challenges.
8. Partnering Education and Training in the North East Goldfields.
9. Attraction and retention program focusing on pre-service teachers experiencing rural life; Stories to be shared.
10. Overview – Kalgoorlie School of the Air – staffing; resourcing; supervision; role of home tutors; location of students, issues and challenges.
11. Availability of VET programs in the Goldfields; access to RTOs; Issues with teacher qualifications; viable class numbers; and, workplace experience.”

“Presenters / Guests included:

Name	Position/Organisation	Topic
Hon Peter Collier MLC	Minister for Education	Discussion and attendance at regional meeting on 29 October 2014
Mr Aubrey Lynch	Wongatha Goldfields Elder	Welcome to Country
Mr Kevin Doig	Managing Director Goldfields Institute	Overview Goldfields Institute and provision of Vocational Education and Training Certificate courses.
Mr Ken Perris	Regional Executive Director, Goldfields-Esperance Education Region	Overview of Education in the Goldfields Esperance Education Region; impact of Year 7's; school self-assessment -cultural awareness; School of the Air; Lands Schools, continuity/succession planning, retention of teachers; PALS Program.
Mr Darren Cooke	Northern Star Resources	Goldfields Education Mining Industry Alliance (GEMIA)
Mr Bill McKenzie	McKenzie & McKenzie Lawyers	Goldfields-Esperance Workforce Development Alliance

Name	Position/Organisation	Topic
Ms Christine Boase	AngloGold Ashanti Australia Limited	Partnering Education and Training NE Goldfields
Ms Sarah Fletcher	Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	My plan for the future Year 9 and 10 Survey 2013
Mr Kurtis Leslie	Principal Coolgardie CAPS	Historical growth; students; improving confidence and student self-esteem; expectations; programs; challenges.
Mr Stephen Delfs	Principal, O'Connor Primary School	Pre-Service Attraction and Retention program
Ms Sandi Fielder	Deputy Principal, O'Connor Primary School	
MS Eloise Juren Van Vuuren	Principal, Kalgoorlie School of the Air	Overview – Kalgoorlie School of the Air – staffing; resourcing; supervision; role of home tutors; location of students, issues and challenges.
Mr Leslie Crawley	VET Coordination Goldfields / Participation Officer Esperance	Availability of VET programs in the Goldfields; access to RTOs; Issues with teacher qualifications; viable class numbers; and, workplace experience.

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