

CLARENCE VALLEY

Industry Education Forum



Clarence Valley Industry Education Forum was established in 2006 in response to government education and training initiatives for 15-19 year olds and Clarence Valley Council's economic development strategic plan. Since then the Forum has been working to consolidate its role as the key educational industry partnership within the region. The purpose of the Forum is to strategically support and build the future of young people in the Clarence Valley and meet industry and community needs through dynamic partnerships in key program areas. The Forum has 3 key programs:

■ **CareerLink** commenced 2006 ■ **Fresh Start** commenced 2010 ■ **Stellar** established 2011

WHY AN INDUSTRY EDUCATION FORUM?

The Forum brings together key partners into a unique, strategic partnership between business, education and the community. Informed by local enterprise and industry, the Forum partnership seeks to have a sustainable community impact by working collaboratively and sharing resources that will develop our young people's futures through targeted secondary and tertiary education programs. Industry and Education collaborate by recognising the interdependence that we have in building successful communities and increasing the capacity to meet the needs of our young people as well as securing our region's economic and social wellbeing.

WHO BENEFITS?

Students have opportunities that are innovative, engaging and lead to rewarding futures

Business & Industry have the rewarding experience of contributing to the region's future

Schools have partnerships with community & business that enhance students' achievements

Education providers strengthen connection with community & business by offering expertise and future pathways for young people

Community gains by having young people prepared for a great future in a region that is forging ahead

Agencies play an active role in program support



FORUM PARTNERS:

Operating on the basis of distributed leadership, the Forum is a collaboration by informal agreement between Forum partners. The Forum is chaired by Ron Phillips, School Education Director, NSW Department of Education and Communities North Coast Region and includes representation from;

- Clarence Valley Council
- Grafton High School
- Induna School
- McAuley Catholic College
- Maclean High School
- Aboriginal Education Consultative Group
- Southern Cross University
- South Grafton High School
- TAFE NSW – North Coast Institute
- Community representative
- University of New England
- NSW Department of Education & Communities – North Coast Region
- Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations



FORUM AIMS:

- *Provide* innovative and industry focused curriculum
- Deliver supportive learning environments
- Develop strategic partnerships
- Engage the community
- Foster a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Build program sustainability; and
- Embrace a commitment to continual improvement



FORUM OUTCOMES:

- Improve employment outcomes for young people
- Contribute to a skilled labour force to support existing business and attract new industry
- Enhance retention of students to year 12 or a vocational equivalent
- Integrate education, training and skills development through school-based apprenticeships and traineeships
- Maximise use of resources, physical and virtual infrastructure
- Develop cross curriculum initiatives between schools and other education providers

FORUM ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Fresh Start** – winner of two 2012 National Local Government Awards for Regional Collaborations and Engaging and Strengthening Indigenous Communities
- **Fresh Start** - winner of Outstanding Regional Innovation category, 2011 Nanga Mai Awards
- **CareerLink** - winner National Australia Bank Schools First Impact Award 2009