



WESTERN EDGE CLUSTER (WEC)

VET PD 2009 SNAPSHOT

Western Local Community Partnership's (Western LCP) first forum for 2009 attracted more than 30 school representatives from within the Melton shire. We were also joined by teachers from outside the cluster who were keen to see, first hand, the level of communication that supports such a successful cluster and the processes that have been developed over the ten plus years the cluster has been running.

After a welcome by Western LCP's Project Officer and WEC VET facilitator, Tania Sacco, a variety of speakers from Western LCP and WEC presented. The list below shows the presentation topics and the order of delivery. You can also access the [PowerPoint](#) that accompanied the speakers.

Summary of presentations and links to Power Point Presentations

- Celebrating ten successful years of collaboration for the Western Edge Cluster; past, present and future by Tania Sacco, Western LCP;
 - Introduction of Western Edge Cluster (WEC)
 - Handbook Refresher
- An environmental scan of industry in Victoria and the West by Zina Micelli, Regional Industry Careers Advisor (RICA)
 - Current labour market data and employment prospects
- Future Landscape by Colleen Bergin, Western LCP;
 - Trade Training Centre and Western LCP Pilot programs
- Industry engagement - It's vital -
A look at different models within WEC of working with industry to up-skill students:
 - Multimedia/IT - Industry partnerships by Gavin Clifford of Kurunjang Secondary College
 - Hospitality - Industry Tours by Cate Luxford, Staughton College
 - Business Admin - Work projects by Joanne Galea, Melton Secondary College
- Structured work place learning focused on planning, preparation, procedures and tools;
 - SWL Fundamentals by Boyd Maplestone, Western LCP
 - Resources on line by Tricia Fidler, Western LCP
 - Applying on line for SWL by Kamma Clarke, Western LCP
- Promoting and recognizing vocational training as a valuable pathway by Maria Cox, Western LCP;
 - Sowing the seeds of interest in junior year levels - how you can help
 - The importance of Recognition and Reward

Feedback from participants

Over 30 teachers attended the VET PD 2009 Forum with representatives from most secondary schools across Melton shire as well as Victoria University, WynBay LLEN and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Evaluation forms were received from 18 participants. The evaluations clearly indicated an outstanding level of satisfaction with most aspects of the Forum. Six participants gave “top scores” to all of the statements. Most others were a mixture of very good and good on one or more of the statements. Please see a summary of the results below.

All in all, most respondents indicated an informative day was had, some even called it great. New VET staff overwhelmingly noted that the forum increased their understanding of the cluster’s processes. In particular the importance of linking up with other people and learning about the value of work placement preparation were highlighted. A suggestion from one participant was for the day’s program to be compacted into a morning. Another suggestion was to have session which purely focused on day to day procedures for VET teachers e.g. marking rolls etc. A request for follow up sessions on how to use the SWL console was also mentioned.

*To assist us with our evaluation of this PD we would appreciate your feedback.
Circle the most appropriate response to the statements below:*

	VG	Good	Fair	Poor
1. The information provided in the opening address	14	3		
2. The range of topics presented	14	3		
3. The opportunity to find out who is involved in the cluster	14	4		
4. Increased understanding of the WEC and the cluster’s arrangements	14	4		
5. Increased awareness of Structured Workplace Learning	14	4		
6. Increased interest in developing school & industry partnership connections	11	6	1	
7. The overall relevance of the resources & information that were presented	17	1		
8. Overall usefulness of the event	18			

Contact information

Presenters

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Cate Luxford – **Staughton College**

Phone: 9743 4622

Gavin Clifford – **Kurunjang**

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Western Local Community Partnership - Executive Officer

Colleen Bergin

Western Local Community Partnership - Project Officers

Maria Cox

Boyd Maplestone

Greg Young

Tricia Fidler

Tania Sacco

Western Local Community Partnership - SWL Coordinator

Kamma Clarke

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Where to from here?

Issues which arose from the forum will be discussed at the WEC VET Coordinator meetings through-out the first half of the year and if agreed upon, issues and recommendations will be presented to Principals at the WEC VET Principals meetings.

Western LCP will hold professional development for VET staff for the SWL console in February 2009. Session times are: Tuesday 17 at 2:00pm, Thursday 19 at 3:30pm and Friday 20 at 9:00am.

The training will be held at Western LCP Offices, 2 Devonshire Rd, Sunshine.

To join a session please contact Kamma Clarke.