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To Apprentices, Trainees & Students at the Skills Institute

Changes at the Skills Institute – how will they affect me?

You may have heard or read in the media that the Skills Institute needs to reduce its costs and staffing levels.

I am writing to personally inform you of the situation to ensure you have a full understanding of the issue and how it may affect you.

We recently learned that the money we receive to provide training from Government and other funding organisations has been reduced, which means we need to make adjustments to our delivery of training.

While this will mean some changes within the Institute, the majority of our apprentices, trainees and students will not be affected.

We will need to cut back on training in courses that have very few students or which are not seen as a high priority by employers and industry in Tasmania, however, this will not affect trade apprentices or the majority of trainees and students.

Importantly, those who are affected will be given plenty of time to complete their qualifications with the Institute and we will work with these individuals and groups to ensure they are not disadvantaged in any way.

We have many training workshops across the State that need to be maintained at a high standard, with equipment that is up to date. This equipment is very expensive, which may mean that for some trade areas, particularly Automotive, we will have to merge our regional centres into one.

Consequently apprentices in these areas will sometimes be asked to travel to another region of the State for part of their training. However, a mix of workplace training and assessment will lessen the need for travel and time away from home and the workplace.

I'd like to take this opportunity to once again assure you that you will continue to receive high quality training from the Skills Institute. For a small number of students there may be changes to training delivery arrangements; however plenty of notice will be provided.

In cases where there are very small enrolments and we take the decision to discontinue a course, all current students will still be able to complete their qualifications.

Yours sincerely



Malcolm White
CEO