

Skills Tasmania Facts



Skills Tasmania

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Special Addition to the Skills Tasmania Conference Programme

The Skills Tasmania conference welcomes a special guest from the Kingdom of Bhutan.

Mr Sangay Dorjee is the Director of the Department of Occupational Standards in the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources. Mr Dorjee worked in the Ministry of Education from 1989 until 2000, the National Technical Training Authority from 2000 to 2003, and has been in his current position since 2003. He had a brief stint as the Principal of the only technical training institute in Bhutan "Royal Technical Institute" and helped implement the expansion of TVET in the country.

Mr Dorjee (pictured below) is in Australia as the recipient of a prestigious 2009 Endeavour Executive Award. The Endeavour Awards are the Australian Government's internationally competitive, merit-based scholarship programme providing high-achieving individuals with a unique opportunity to undertake study, research or professional development.



Mr Dorjee will be an additional speaker at the conference dinner on Monday 18 May and will give a brief address to delegates on Tuesday 19 May.

Skills Tasmania Conference, Country Club Tasmania, Launceston
Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 May.

To register visit: www.skills.tas.gov.au/conference or call
Jacqui Maclaine on (03) 6233 3194

Dates for your Diary

- 7-8 May Moderation and Validation of RPL Assessment – Hobart (7 May), Launceston (8 May)
- 8 May Review of TAA40104 Certificate IV Training and Assessment consultation workshop (Hobart)
- 11 May Deputy Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence for employers of apprentices (applications close)
- 14 May next Tasmanian Flexible Learning Network meeting - Hobart (register by 12 May)
- 18-19 May Skills Tasmania Conference 2009 (Launceston)
- 21 May Equity Support Program small grants – EOI close
- 29 May 2009 Tasmanian Training Awards – nominations close at 5.00pm
- 2 Jun edna workshop (Launceston)
- 9 Jun Trade Training Centres in Schools Program – applications for Round Two close
- 28 Aug 2009 Tasmanian Training Awards – Gala Dinner (Hobart)

Skills Tasmania Board Meeting Communiqué - 15 April 2009

David Hind, Chair, opened the meeting by reminding directors that whilst much of the meeting would address national issues, directors should relate these to a Tasmanian context – for example, the impact of national issues on the Skills Strategy for Tasmania and the Tasmania *Tomorrow* reforms.

The Board reviewed its major initiatives, generally pleased with progress, such as the existing worker apprenticeship initiative that has seen a 50% increase (658 in 2008) in such apprenticeships over the number in 2007.

Skills Tasmania staff members, Ian Paterson and Leanne McLean, briefed the Board on the major themes from the Big Skills Conference held in Sydney during March. The themes were the world economy, climate change ('green' skills being a major component) and social inclusion. The key message is that we should emerge from the global economic crisis with a fairer and more environmentally sustainable training system.

The Board discussed elements of VET Reform and developed responses for the Premier for his imminent discussions with Skills Australia. Positions statements are being developed for:

- *Client Centred Training System*
- *Tasmanian Priorities for Skills Development*
- *Competition and Choice*
- *Workforce Development – A New Approach*

The Board discussed the National Workforce Development Strategy, essentially a National Skills Strategy, being developed by Skills Australia. David Hind also reported that this and other matters, namely disengaged youth, data and the skills implications of the global financial crisis are matters discussed at a meeting between Skills Australia and, amongst others, State Training Authority Chairs. David also advised that a Strategic Industry Forum, comprising State Training Authority Chairs, Chairs of Industry Skills Councils and peak industry representatives, will be held annually.

In considering governance arrangements and VET-related matters, the Board developed recommendations for the Minister in considering the State's response to the Bradley Review of Higher Education.

The Board requested staff of Skills Tasmania enter into further negotiations with Skills Australia over the joint signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two bodies.

The Board was apprised of the latest work done in the State's assuming responsibility for Australian Apprenticeships Services. The Board requested that further work be done but the Federal Government subsequently withdrew its offer and Australian Apprenticeships Centres will have their current contracts extended by two years.

Deputy Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence now open

Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon. Julia Gillard MP, has opened the nominations for the 2009 Minister's Awards for Excellence for employers of apprentices in 22 regions across Australia.

Employers are encouraged to apply. **The applications are open until 11 May 2009.**

The Minister's Awards for Excellence, supported by Skills Australia, profile employers working in positive ways to retain employees; particularly significant in times of economic difficulty. The awards also demonstrate the commitment to investing in people and can position organisations as innovators in a rapidly changing world.

For an application form, which also has further information about how to apply for these awards, visit:
www.ibsa.org.au/downloads/Skills_Aust_MAE_Employer_Application_Form_2009.pdf

Application forms can also be downloaded or completed online by following the Minister's Awards for Excellence links at:
www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

Each regional winner receives \$5000 prize money, a certificate and a trophy. The Awards will be presented at a ceremony hosted by the Hon Julia Gillard MP, Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations at Parliament House on 18 August 2009. This will be followed by a dinner hosted by Mr Philip Bullock, Chair of Skills Australia.

Enquiries about the Awards can be directed to
ministersawards@deewr.gov.au.

'Skills Tasmania Identity' and the issuing of certificates

Recently there have been a number of queries regarding the use of the Skills Tasmania logo. The following information is provided for the guidance of RTOs, which has also been published on the Skills Tasmania website:

The guidelines governing use of State and Territory Training Authority logos are contained in the *AQF Implementation Handbook 2007* (refer to the chapter on 'Issuing a qualification'). In Tasmania this logo is known as the 'Skills Tasmania Identity' (the Identity). Its use is only required when the qualification has been funded by Skills Tasmania.

In using the Skills Tasmania Identity, suggested wording might include 'This program is funded by Skills Tasmania'. As the *AQF Implementation Handbook 2007* states, this wording can be used on all qualifications. Although it is a requirement that the Identity and supporting wording must be included on a full qualification, its use on a Statement of Attainment is optional.

The recommended font for any wording is Gill Sans (or Arial). The font size is discretionary, although it must be a minimum of 10 points.

The *AQF Implementation Handbook 2007* is available at
www.aqf.edu.au/implem.htm.

A copy of the Skills Tasmania Identity can be obtained by contacting Brendan Boucher at brendan.boucher@skills.tas.gov.au.

Tasmanian Flexible Learning Network – 14 May 2009

At this month's TFLN meeting we'll meet and talk with Roger Stack about **Online Personalities - Using Avatars**. Roger will address the question of 'What it means to have an online identity'. How we make the distinction between online and professional personalities AND 'What is happening in the 3 D world?'

Roger is a Flexible Learning Manager from the Hobart Campus of the Tasmanian Polytechnic. He has an interesting and varied background in multimedia teaching, and is well known for his creative use of social networking technologies.

Come and enjoy good company and conversation at this month's get together.

The meeting will run for one hour in the Skills Tasmania boardroom at 1/99 Bathurst Street, Hobart. Tea and coffee will be provided.

There are limited spots available in the boardroom so if you are intending to come in for the meeting on 14 May 2009 please register by e-mailing gail.wilson@skills.tas.gov.au by **12 May 2009**; for people intending to join us via UStream TV there are known problems for some due to firewall restrictions, however all sessions will be recorded and available via a link on <http://emania.org/>.

The Tassie Toolbox!

This month sees the launch of: "The Tassie Toolbox", a free professional development program open to all VET practitioners in Tasmania. Participants will spend 10 weeks exploring 23 training tools and technologies in an online environment. Each week will involve about an hour (at a time of your own choosing) looking at two or three different 'things' and recording your progress and observations in a web based journal (blog) while you experiment and network online.

Visit <http://tassietoolbox.blogspot.com/> to read more about the program and sign up, or form a group and participate with your co-workers.

For further information view the program flyer at www.trainingo2.net/eli/uploads/Tassie_Toolbox_flyer.doc.

