

YouthNow

Annual Report 2009



WESTERN YOUTH FUTURES



Western Local Community Partnership



Career On Track





*The YouthNow office is located in the historic H.V. Mackay Building.
Suite 9, 2 Devonshire Road, Sunshine.*

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Statement of Purpose

Western Workplace Learning's purpose is to advance education, training and employment outcomes for young people in Melbourne's Western Metropolitan region and in particular to significantly improve engagement and transition outcomes for young people from highly disadvantaged and impoverished backgrounds who would be at risk of disengaging from education, training and/or employment.

We will achieve our purpose through:

- Development of dynamic community partnerships
- Advocacy for young people
- Empowerment of young people
- Sustainable employment and training pathways
- Facilitation of a supportive, collaborative environment
- Engagement and commitment of employers
- Implementation of effective careers and transitions



Back Row, left to right: Joanne Mikhael, Tania Sacco, Anthea Blunden, Tricia Fidler, Luke Bearne, Kamma Clarke, Greg Young, Yoko Ah Kou, Maria Cox
Front Row, left to right: Samantha Vella, Colleen Bergin, Bill O'Connor.

Chair's Report

It is hard to believe another year has rolled by in the life of our organisation. 2009 was certainly a year of great change for us culminating in the demise of the local community partnership process in Victoria. In December 2008 it was agreed that the then board structure would be dissolved and a new eight member board established that reflected a more strategic approach. One that ensured that the organization of WWL Inc was over arching rather than focused on one aspect of our organisation such as the LCP. Every effort was made to ensure that in the implementation of that change the young people of the western region would continue to have premier provision of services in transitional education, training & employment through WWL Inc.



Glenda Fisher

In 2009 the new Board continued to build on the decisions of 2008 and worked hard to steer the organisation in a new direction while maintaining the integrity of our old one. We put significant time into ensuring that Board Members had the requisite skills to position our organisation strategically and much work has gone into re-defining our services while maintaining our original core values. We have welcomed two new members to our Board during the year. Mr. Stephen Grant has brought valuable financial skills to the organisation and Mr. Joe Manariti has provided us with excellent leadership in the marketing area. Mr. Alan Nield provides valuable guidance in the general business management of the organisation, Ms Shirley Romanyk continues to give substantial guidance in the Human Resources area and Mr. Terry Kennedy & Ms Zina Miceli lend valuable support in the education and community area.

Out of all the change thrust upon us in 2009 much good has come starting with a name change and launch of YouthNow in December 2009. This re-badged organisation will endeavour to maintain the high standard of delivery of services to youth that the former LCP was known for.

Our Executive Officer, Ms Colleen Bergin, has led from the front embracing the need for change. She has worked tirelessly to ensure that staff are a part of the decision making and development of the new business. I would particularly like to thank Colleen and staff for their outstanding contribution to building the new organisation over the past eight months and the way in which they have embraced the changes and been willing to support the Board in building the new organisation. They have undergone countless hours of re-training and developed some exciting new business models. The fact that all of our staff except Boyd Maplestone have remained with us tells a very positive story and we are proud that Boyd was able to secure an executive position himself in another organisation, a natural progression from the coordinating position he held at YouthNow.

I would like to thank my Deputy Chair Alan Nield and fellow Board members for their support of the organisation and attendance at meetings. We believe we have created a viable and worthwhile support base for our Executive Officer, Ms Colleen Bergin and her staff which will enable them to continue with the outstanding contribution they have made to giving comprehensive support for young people transitioning between education and work. Thank you for your attendance today. We look forward to your continued support as YoutNow grows in the Western Metropolitan region. **Mrs Glenda Fisher, Chair of YouthNow**

Local Community Partnership - 2009 report by Maria Cox

Western LCP is a Federal Government funded program and 2009 marked its fourth & final year of operation. Through the LCP contract we were able to ensure that all 13 - 19 year olds had access to Structured Workplace Learning (SWL), Careers and Transition and Adopt a School project support. This was achieved through the professional relationships with schools and communities in Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Hobson's Bay, Brimbank, Wyndham and Melton.

The LCP team was also responsible for establishing and maintaining its partnerships with numerous industry and community organisations. Highlights in 2009 included coordinating the Working Women's Breakfast, Boys and Girls Industry Breakfasts, the Parent Engagement Forum, Exploring the Options forum for families, VET PD for Melton Teachers and presenting a workshop at the VISTA VALA conference. We also supported Melton & Moonee Valley Councils with their respective career events, Maribyrnong Council's Try a Trade and worked with Wyndham Council to present their Poss-abilities Expo. In Hobson's Bay we held an Industry Reference Group Breakfast. These activities ensured that all young people in all regions had equal access to LCP services.



Mentoring for Our Students - 2009 report by Bill O'Connor

Five mentoring programs were run in Brimbank and Hobson's Bay municipalities in 2009 as part of the Mentoring for Our Students program. Twelve students from Kealba Secondary College participated and The Australian Technical College Sunshine, Laverton Secondary College and Bayside Secondary College all had 10 students in the program. Altona Nth had 6 and a special program at the Visy Cares Centre at Laverton for disengaged students had 2.

Most of the participants conveyed their satisfaction that the program exceeded their expectations. Attendance was above 90% for the vast majority of mentors and students. Students also expressed their keenness to participate again and all schools requested the program continue.



Bill and mentor Cliff with student and staff from Laverton Secondary College

The mentors performed brilliantly and many surprised themselves with their effectiveness and their enjoyment. Most of them are also keen to continue in 2010. As coordinator I am very pleased with the outcomes, the dedication of the mentors and the commitment of the schools and students. Furthermore the support we received from my colleagues at Western LCP was invaluable. There was much fun enjoyed throughout the year and all of us learned a lot. For more details call Bill on 0438 039 446.

Youth Transition Support Initiative - 2009 report by Joanne Mikhael

The Youth Transitions Support Initiative (YTSI) program is contracted by the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development to YouthNow in partnership with Melbourne City Mission. The program provides case management and support for young people, aged 15 to 19 yrs and not in school, to obtain a sustainable transition into education, training or employment. All young people are supported for six months whilst they are in their placement.



The service contract areas are Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Hobson's Bay and Wyndham. In 2009, 141 young people were signed up to the YTSI program and 108 were new clients referred by various organisations in the West. Throughout the year 113 clients exited the program, 57 of those exits were sustainable outcomes.

A breakdown of sustainable outcomes shows that 29 young people pursued further training and education: 4 returned to school, 9 enrolled in TAFE, 3 chose an Adult Community Education course and 13 enrolled with an RTO. A further 28 young people went into employment, a traineeship or an apprenticeship. For further information contact Joanne Mikhael, YTSI Team Leader on 83117272.



Career on Track (COT) - 2009 Report by Greg Young

The COT pilot program, in the LGA's of Brimbank and Wyndham, commenced in mid July. This program enabled young people aged 15 – 18 to access up to 6 hours of career assistance at no cost to them. The number of referrals in the first few months of the program was low but gradually increased towards the end of the year. At this point there were approximately 58 referrals, however a number of these were ineligible for the program due to returning to school or finding full time employment.

The clients who came for interview were administered the Careers Fast Track program which looked at their career interests and their personality type. These assessments were used as the basis for the career guidance and each client who completed the program went away with a comprehensive career pathway plan.

YouthNow staff experienced substantial difficulties in contacting some of the young people – often making multiple phone calls and where possible, sending a letter to their home. For more info contact Greg Young on 8311 5800.

Western LCP supporting VPP - 2009 report by Kamma Clarke

The Catholic Education Office's Vocational Preparation Program (VPP) has been supported by Western LCP for a number of years. In 2009 the six week program supported year ten students with additional educational needs, to develop skills, confidence and experience in preparation for entering the workforce. Careers and Transitions Project Officer Boyd Maplestone was the main facilitator of the program that also involved site visits to local businesses and higher education providers such as the Commonwealth Bank Customer Centre, Victoria University TAFE in Footscray and Newport. They also had an enlightening time at the Kangan Batman TAFE ACE Auto Centre in the Docklands precinct.

Twenty six students from seven different Catholic secondary schools participated and all completed successful work placements which were organised by Western LCP. Many of the students also received excellent reviews from employers. All students finished the program with a better understanding of the options open to them.



Kamma hard at work finding placements for VPP students

Western Edge Cluster - 2009 report by Tania Sacco

The Western Edge Cluster (WEC) is a partnership between schools and other educational institutions across the Melton region to deliver vocational programs. In 2009, a Western LCP project officer facilitated the collaborative group which allows students to have access to a variety of VET programs. The role included chairing monthly VET coordinators' meetings, collation of resources, professional development and coordinating WEC presence at the Melton Careers Expo to promote VET to the wider community. Executive support, including revising the WEC operational manual to ensure best practice, was also provided to the VET Principals network.

A VET PD forum for WEC VET staff was held in February 2009 to consolidate processes and discuss ways to further promote VET as a valuable pathway in the region. In 2009 the WEC offered: Automotive, Building & Construction, Community Services, Dance, Electro Technology, Engineering, Hairdressing, Hospitality, Information Technology, Multimedia, Outdoor Recreation and Sport & Recreation. A total of 290 students participated in the cluster's arrangements in 2009. 2010 saw enrolment numbers increase by 22% to 353 students.



Taking a break at the Western Edge Cluster VET PD

Parent Engagement Network - 2009 report by Maria Cox

The Parent Engagement Network held their first state-wide Forum at Club Italia, Sunshine on March 2. Western LCP hosted the event which attracted 77 participants including several from regional Victoria. Members of the Network were joined by other interested groups keen to learn about 6 models of parent engagement that have been successful over the past 3 years: CALD, Disabilities, Community, Indigenous, School and Grade 6/7. Participants discussed models of delivery with others who had experienced delivering one of the models in the previous 3 years.



Parent Engagement Network in discussion

Teachers participating in the day's events received a VIT PD snapshot for registration purposes. Brenton Holmes, from the Family-School and Community Partnership Bureau introduced the Bureau's website and gave the key address to participants. In keeping with community partnerships, Councilor Guidice from the Brimbank Council welcomed the participants.

In Term 2 the Network members met at Geelong's GREVEC office to discuss resources and models of parent engagement. In Term 3 a lunch was held at Vic Uni's Cityscape Restaurant to celebrate the achievements of the PEN and plan for 2010.

Parent Engagement - 2009 report by Maria Cox

Project Officers facilitated nine parent workshops over the three LCP regions: Laverton P-12 College hosted a workshop for parents of children with disabilities, and another for Karen parents. Baden Powell P-9 hosted a session for parents about to transition to another campus and Melton Council hosted its usual Year 9 parents workshops but also introduced one for parents of Grade 6 students.

Maribyrnong Secondary College and CRC St Albans provided workshops for their parents and Caroline Springs brought 100 parent and students from Brookside and Creekside campuses to a central location for their event. Parents at Hoppers Crossing were also supported with information about alternative pathways.

Western LCP worked with the National Disabilities Coordination Officer to hold an "Exploring all Options" parent information evening – an inaugural event for the west which provided critical information about SEAS, apprenticeship & traineeship and course information from major Universities and TAFEs.



National Disabilities Coordination Officer and young helpers at the 'Exploring all Options' event

Western Region Industry Reference Group- 2009 report by Tania Sacco

The Western Region Industry Reference Group, convened by the Regional Industry Careers Advisor and Western LCP in 2009, is a network of local industries which support business and school engagement for the purpose of young peoples' school to work transition. Industry representatives ranged from Manufacturing, Health, Transport & Logistics, Telecommunications and Equine.



Industry representatives share their views on employability skills

One of the activities last year was the Reference Group's breakfast event, "*The Global Financial Crisis & its Impact on Young People*". Over 50 businesses and employers from across the West attended to hear about recent labour force results and discuss how to support young people to build skills and address future needs.

A second breakfast, "Employing locally and supporting education and training in the workplace" was delivered in partnership with the Melton Shire Council Community Learning Board. The event drew around 60 people and focused on skill shortages across Australia and the need for businesses to retain staff. Over the years, the Western Region Industry Reference Group has played a pivotal role in providing industry in the West with a voice. For more information contact Tania Sacco on 8311 5812.

Western Region Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Transition Working Party - 2009 report by Tania Sacco



Bill with Sudanese youth Sandy

The Western LCP Western Region Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Transition Working Party aimed to improve the education, transitions, career pathways and employment opportunities for CALD and Indigenous young people in Melbourne's Western Region.

The 2009 Action Plan focused on career & vocational resources, supporting the development of education programs, employment pathways and advocating for program funding. Achievements for 2009 included the formation of an Indigenous sub-committee, consolidation of the CALD & Indigenous Transitions website pages, and delivery of CALD Parent Workshops through-out the region including the Eritrean and Karen Communities.

Representatives include: the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Catholic Education Office, Western English Language School, LLEN's, Foundation House, Local Councils, AMES, River Nile Learning Centre, Centre for Multicultural Youth, Migrant Resource Centre NW, School Focus Youth Services and the Western LCP team. 2009 saw the WR CALD Working Party come to an end, due to funding being re-directed. For more details contact Tania Sacco on 8311 5812.

School Activity Summary 2006-2009

School	LLEN	Em	SWL	Net'wk	PW	CTS	ASP	VPP	Men	WEC	WYFA
Al-Taqwa	WYNBAY										
Altona Secondary College	WYNBAY										
Ascot Vale Special School	M&MV										
Aust. Tech. College Sunshine	BMLLEN										
Ave Maria College	M&MV										
Baden Powell P-9 College	WYNBAY										
Bayside College	WYNBAY										
Braybrook Secondary College	M&MV										
Brimbank College	BMLLEN										
Buckley Park College	M&MV										
Caroline Chisholm Catholic College	BM LLEN										
Caroline Springs College	BM LLEN										
Carranballac Colleges P-9	WYNBAY										
Catholic Regional College - Melton	BM LLEN										
Catholic Regional College - St Albans	BMLLEN										
Catholic Regional College - Sydenham	BMLLEN										
Catholic Regional College -Caroline Springs	BMLLEN										
Catholic Regional College -North Sunshine	BMLLEN										
Copperfield College	BMLLEN										
Debney Park Secondary College	M&MV										
Deer Park Secondary College	BMLLEN										
Djerriwarrh	BM LLEN										
Emmanuel College	WYNBAY										
Essendon East Keilor District College	M&MV										
Footscray City College	M&MV										
Furlong Park School for Deaf Children	BMLLEN										
Galvin Park Secondary College	WYNBAY										
Gilmore Girls College	M&MV										
Gilson College	BM LLEN										
Glenvale School Melton Campus	BM LLEN										
Heathdale Christian College	WYNBAY										
Hoppers Crossing Secondary College	WYNBAY										
Jackson School	BMLLEN										
Kealba Secondary College	BMLLEN										
Keilor Downs Secondary College	BMLLEN										
Kensington Community School	M&MV										
Kurunjang Secondary College	BM LLEN										
Laverton College (P - 12)	WYNBAY										
Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School	M&MV										

School Activity Summary 2006-2009

School	LLEN	Em	SWL	Net'wk	PW	CTS	ASP	VPP	Men	WEC	WYFA
Mackillop Catholic Regional College	WYNBAY										
Marian College	BM LLEN										
Maribyrnong Secondary College	M&MV										
Melton Christian College	BM LLEN										
Melton Secondary College	BM LLEN										
Melton Specialist School	BM LLEN										
Moonee Ponds Central School P-9	M&MV										
Mowbray College	BM LLEN										
Mt St Joseph Girls School	WYNBAY										
Overnewton Anglican Community College	BM LLEN										
Penleigh & Essendon Grammar School	M&MV										
Point Cook Senior Secondary College	WYNBAY										
Rosamond Special School	M&MV										
Rosehill Secondary College	M&MV										
Spirit West Services	M&MV										
St Albans Secondary College	BM LLEN										
St Bernard's College	M&MV										
St Columba's College	M&MV										
St Vincent's Special School	M&MV										
Staughton College	BM LLEN										
Strathmore Secondary College	M&MV										
Sunshine College	BM LLEN										
Sunshine Special Developmental School	BM LLEN										
Taylor's Lakes Secondary College	BM LLEN										
The Grange P-12 College	WYNBAY										
Thomas Carr College	WYNBAY										
Travancore	M&MV										
Vic Uni - Nicholson St Campus	M&MV										
Warringa Park Special School	WYNBAY										
Werribee Community & Education Centre	WYNBAY										
Werribee Secondary College	WYNBAY										
Westbourne Grammar	WYNBAY										
Western Autistic School	M&MV										
Western English Language School	M&MV										
Williamstown High School	WYNBAY										
Yarraville Special Developmental School	WYNBAY										

KEY: Em - Email/post, SWL - Structured Workplace Learning activities, Netw'k - Network Meetings,
 PW - Parent Workshops, CTS - Careers & Transitions Forums, ASP - Adopt a School Activities,
 VPP - Vocational Preparation Program, Men - Mentoring for Our Students program,
 WEC - Western Edge Cluster, WYFA - Western Youth Futures Awards.

WEST YOUTH Referral Point - 2009 report by Yoko Ah Kuoi



The West Youth Referral Point continued to be a great success in providing support to young people and their families in 2009. We worked in partnership with Police, YRIPP, Schools, Youth Justice, families and community workers in order to respond to the identified needs of referred young people.

In 2009, there were 484 referrals to the referral point. Of these, 60 required case management support and were referred to the YTSI program. Most of the rest were referred to Youth Pathways, Careers support and advice, Drug and Alcohol, JPET and Headspace. The others required only further information and resources. The totals per LGA area are: Brimbank (142), Melton (31), Hobsons Bay (99), Wyndham (83), Moonee Valley (36), Maribyrnong (17), and other areas (50).



WYF MOU signing with
Werribee Police on 27th March 2009

Total referrals for 2009 have more than doubled those of 2008. This is an indication of an increased need to support young people who are starting to disengage in school and for those who are already disengaged. The 1300 West Youth referral point has been able to service the needs of these young people for more than 2 years and it's intending to continue with its services in 2010. For more information call Yoko on 8311 5817.

Work Experience - 2009 report by Yoko Ah Kuoi & Kamma Clarke

Young people who participate in this Work Experience activity are either Youth Transitions (YTSI) or Career on Track (CoT) clients. The program supports young people to learn skills from the specified career area of their choice: placements are up to five days in duration. In preparation participants complete the Occupational Health & Safety test relevant to that industry and Western LCP's (now YouthNow's) insurance policy covers all liability requirements for the host business.

After successful completion, most participants have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to learn new skills and have indicated that the experience has provided them with confidence and knowledge about the realities of a working life. Others have discovered the skills they need to improve and requested further guidance and direction from our support services.

In addition to work specific skills these work experience opportunities build on the general employability and social networking skills of our clients and are a valuable way to contribute to helping them get a real taste of the world of work. For more information call Yoko on 8311 5817 or Kamma on 8311 5811.



Yoko Ah Kuoi taking a referral

SWL Pilot - 2009 report by Samantha Vella

In 2009 I wanted to leave school after year 11 and go and do an apprenticeship in hairdressing, because hairdressing was something I really enjoyed and I was doing it as my VET subject through school every Wednesday.



Colleen, Kamma, the SWL pilot team and Samantha.

However in June I commenced work experience at Western LCP. I started out thinking that I wouldn't like it but to my surprise I enjoyed it. On the third day Colleen Bergin and Kamma Clarke both asked me to take on getting a Pilot Program up and running. My task was to get students from my school, Kurunjang Secondary College, to come to the office every Thursday and work to get a "call centre" set up for the Melton Trade Centre.

I held an assembly at school to find interested students and then a meeting to give them the details. At the end of the meeting I was able to tell Kamma and Colleen that I had several students keen to participate. Colleen and Kamma then hosted an introduction day in the Western LCP office where lunch was provided for the students and our Careers Coordinator, Merrill Farmer.

I put the students in little groups and they rotated to come in so we wouldn't have all of them at once. Under my supervision the students worked on getting the website up and running and on learning all different things that they needed to know. During that time the organisation changed its name to YouthNow, which made it so much better and easier to say when we called businesses. After the students had been coming for 6 months they were given Certificates of participation at the YouthNow Launch in December. By the way, I returned to school in 2010 and plan to complete my Yr 12.

Structured Workplace Learning - 2009 report by Kamma Clarke

Western LCP provides online support to students looking for Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) or work experience as part of their VET or VCAL program. The online application process allows employers to communicate with one contact person when dealing with work placement requests. It also enables students to access quality placement opportunities that are offered by well informed and supportive employers. All students who go out have completed their OH &S and are covered by Education Department insurance.



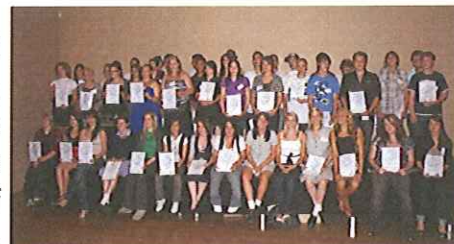
Structured Workplace Learning students.

As in past years it was pleasing to hear that a few students from different schools were successful in securing part time jobs from their employers once they had completed their placement. This type of outcome reaffirms that SWL placements / work experience can get results way beyond the completion of a VET or VCAL Certificate. For more information contact Kamma Clarke on 8311 5800.

Western Youth Futures Industry & Education Awards

2009 report by Maria Cox

The Awards ceremony for 2008 was held on March 19th & celebrated the achievements of VET, VCAL, ASbA and work placement students in the west. The event was coordinated by Maria Cox with committee members representing the 3 LLENs, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Catholic Education Office & Independent Schools.



Group photo of the 2009 award winners.

Over 400 people attended the event which saw 67 awards presented at Club Italia in Sunshine. Music during the reception was supplied by Copperfield College Music students. The MC was Scott Brady, Director of Logistics at Myer. Terry Lawless, Assistant Regional Director-School Improvement presented certificates.

Cr Broden Borg gave the welcome, acknowledgement to Country and introduced Colleen Bergin who explained the Western Youth Futures Initiative. Signatories for WYF were Bayside College, Melbourne City Mission & WYRIPP (Western Region Youth Referral & Independent Person Program). Main sponsors were Western Youth Futures, DEECD, Victoria University and Kangan Batman TAFE. Nominations for the 2009 awards opened in Term 4. The judging panel met in early December to award 54 prizes.

YouthNow Website - 2009 report by Tricia Fidler

The Western LCP website continued its role as a communication and support tool for schools in 2009. All previous pages including Structured Workplace Learning, CALD and Indigenous Transitions and Australian School based Apprenticeships were maintained and snapshots of events and activities continued to be promptly posted.

With the decision to change our name the need for a new website presented itself and what would still be valuable on the new site was considered. Of primary importance is access to the online Structured Workplace Learning database which is password protected but in addition to this many of the documents that had previously been freely available needed to be assessed in terms of their intellectual property value. At the end of 2009 notification of the organisation's name change appeared on the Western LCP website and a link to the YouthNow website was created when the new site became active in February 2010.

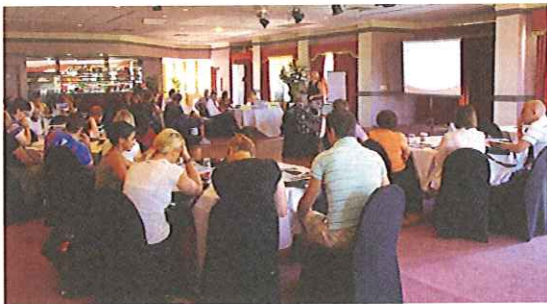
Support in the development of the new website was provided by Swim Communications. Their business development consultancy with YouthNow continues into 2010. For more details contact Tricia Fidler on 0407814925.



New website, new look.

Professional Development - 2009 report by Greg Young

Western LCP's professional development program included the following events: Parent Engagement Network; "Access Apps" in conjunction with National Disability Coordination Program, with a focus on software programs that support student learning; Melton VET Teacher PD for the Melton VET Western Edge Cluster; Boys and Girls Breakfasts with Industry representatives run in conjunction with Brimbank City Council; and a Try a Trade day in conjunction with the Maribyrnong City Council, held at the newly opened Phoenix Youth Centre. The organisation also hosted the Regional VCAL meeting in the historic Harvester Boardroom in its Sunshine office.



*Melton Western Edge VET Cluster
Professional Development day.*

Western LCP continued to be a registered provider of professional development for teachers by the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) and all our PD activities were listed on the VIT website. After attending one of the activities teachers were issued with a certificate indicating the professional standards of the activity. This certificate enables them

to add to their hours of professional development as required for teacher registration. For more details contact Greg Young on 8311 5825

Careers Fast Track - 2009 report by Greg Young

The Careers Fast Track (CFT) program is a widely used instrument for providing career counselling to both young people and adults. All Western LCP staff attended a 4 day training program to become accredited administrators of the CFT program.

The training was provided by Nigel Phillips, the CEO of Careers Fast Track Pty. Ltd. The great advantage of CFT program is the number of reports it can produce for any client. These include the Personal Learning and Career Pathway Plan, Employability Skills and Learnability Skills.

The program was used with some students from Catholic Regional College, Caroline Springs at the request of the school's welfare teacher. The instrument was also administered to young people in the Career on Track program. For more information contact YouthNow on 8311 5800



*CFT Training completion, the team with
our trainer Nigel Phillips.*

Industry Placement Pilot - 2009 report by Tricia Fidler



Kamma at home at Kuranjang Secondary College.

In early 2009 Western LCP staff took themselves off to get a bird's eye view of what happens behind the doors of industry when they completed work placements with two local councils, two businesses and a local school.

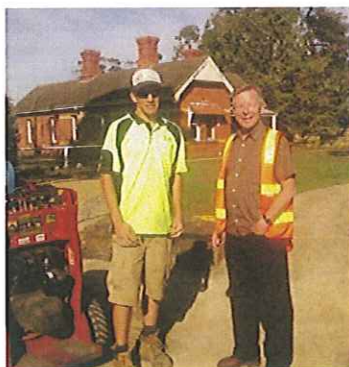
Our hosts included: Toyota and Toll - vehicle transport division, in Altona; and Hobson's Bay and Brimbank Councils. Maria Cox got an insider's view of the building industry when she completed her Construction Induction card and Kamma Clarke spent two

weeks at Kuranjang Secondary College in Melton. In this school she was not only able to get the education sectors perspective on vocational training, but also prepare for a skill development program Western LCP ran in preparation for the planned Trade Training Centre in Melton.

A highlight of Tania Sacco's placement at Toyota was her development of the Toyota Corporation Year 10 Australian work experience manual. This document contains a multitude of information on how to apply for a placement, OH&S, activities that students can do while on placement and support information for the student's supervisors. At Toll, Tricia Fidler got an insight into how new and old vehicles are transported around the country, how the vehicles that haul these loads are maintained and skills of the people who make the whole thing work.



Tania holding her manual at the Toyota's Altona site.



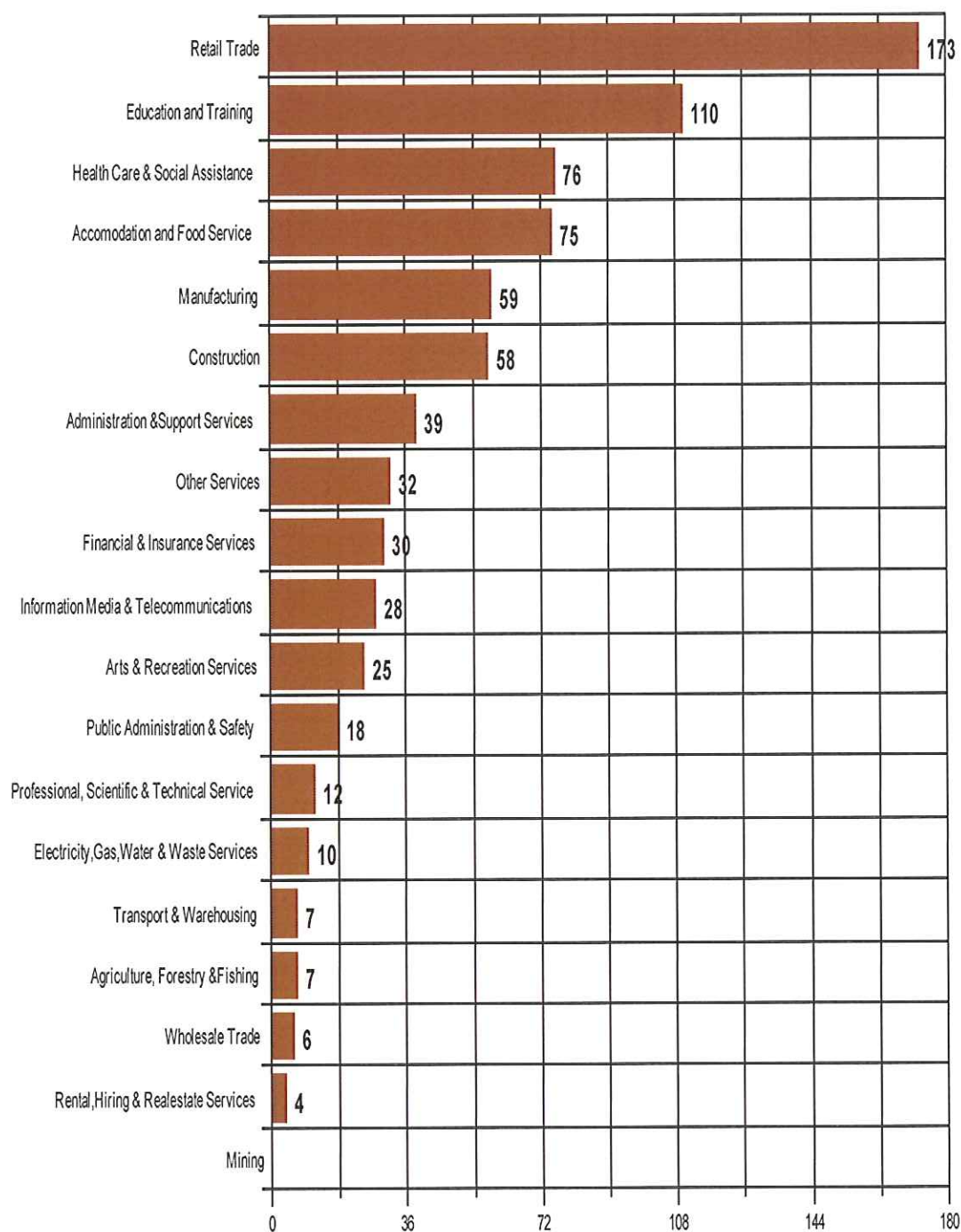
Greg looking the part with Parks and Gardens staff

Greg Young fitted in well at Hobson's Bay City Council, where he gathered information about the range of services the council provides and the people who run these services. He was also able to tee up over twenty work placement opportunities for students with the council so that students can sample this workplace for themselves.

Boyd Maplestone spent his time at Brimbank City Council where he interviewed staff about their roles and how they found their way into working in local government.

All Western LCP participants agreed that their time on placement reinforced for them the value of experiencing a workplace for yourself. For more information contact Tricia 0407 814 925.

Employer Engagement by ANZSIC category



YOUTHNOW INCORPORATED
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	457,500	352,986
Trade and other receivables	19,508	2,019
Other	44,512	17,445
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	521,520	372,450
NON - CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant & equipment	40,359	33,344
TOTAL NON - CURRENT ASSETS	40,359	33,344
TOTAL ASSETS	561,880	405,794
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	118,284	116,714
Provisions	18,511	31,413
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	136,795	148,127
TOTAL LIABILITIES	136,795	148,127
NET ASSETS	425,085	257,667
MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Opening surplus	257,667	263,230
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	167,418	(5,563)
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	425,085	257,667

The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial report.

2009 Board Members

Chair	Glenda Fisher	Catholic Education Office
Deputy Chair	Alan Neild	Agfab Engineering
Public Officer	Terry Kennedy	Brimbank Melton LLEN
Treasurer	Stephen Grant	
Member	Shirley Romanyk	Claytons Group
Member	Zina Miceli	AiGroup
Executive Officer	Colleen Bergin	Western LCP

LCP Sub-Committee Members

Chair	Glenda Fisher	Catholic Education Office
Executive Officer	Colleen Bergin	Western LCP
Govt. School	Merrill Farmer	Kurunjang SC
Govt. School	Andrew Smith	DEECD
Independant School	Nadia Anin	Lowther Hall
Youth Pathways	Ron Miers	WCIG Employment Services
Youth	Nick Huntly	DIY Sprouts
Parent	Sue Cox	
Other	Rose Lewanski	Victoria University
Other	Shirley Romanyk	Claytons Group
Member	Maree Wheelens	Victoria University

YTSI Sub-Committee

Chair	Terry Kennedy	Brimbank Melton LLEN
EO	Colleen Bergin	Western LCP
YTSI	Ian Gartlan	Djerriwarrh
YTSI	Steven Mallet	Melbourne City Mission
Member	Nick Huntly	DIY Sprouts
Member	Zina Miceli	Australian Industry Group

Industry Reference Group

Chair	Zina Miceli	AiGroup
EO	Colleen Bergin	Western LCP
Member	Sue Fowler	Maribyrnong& Moonee Valle LLEN
Member	Terry Kennedy	Brimbank Melton LLEN
Member	Dallian D'Cruz	WynBay LLEN

Staff

Executive Officer: Colleen Bergin

Admin / Finance Team

Anthea Blunden
Kamma Clarke
Huyen Nguyen
Samantha Vella
Sarah Anderson*

LCP/Mentoring Team

Maria Cox
Tricia Fidler
Boyd Maplestone*
Bill O'Connor
Tania Sacco
Greg Young

YTSI TEAM

Yoko Ah Kuoi
Luke Bearne
Sharnae Heaney*
Joanne Mikhael

*Denotes former staff

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