Welcome to the June 2007 edition of *Training the Territory*. This publication shares news, stories and what’s on in the employment and training sector. If you would like to submit an article or idea at any time, please contact Melissa Luhrman, Events and Publication Coordinator on (08) 8901 1356 or melissa.luhrman@nt.gov.au.

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The Northern Territory Government released Jobs Plan 3 in May 2007 as a key component of the 2007 Budget.

*Jobs Plan* 3 aims to ensure the Government’s commitments to training for employment are met and that there are better job prospects for all Territorians, as well as more options for students as they move from school to work or further education or training.

*Jobs Plan* 3 builds on the momentum created by previous Jobs Plans and will further assist Territorians to gain employment and Northern Territory employers to find skilled workers.

The main aims of *Jobs Plan* 3 are to:

- Ensure that the target of 10 000 apprentice and trainee commencements over four years is achieved.
- Facilitate and assist with the transition of school students into employment, further education or training.
- Create public and private sector partnerships to ensure a supply of suitably skilled workers for Northern Territory business and industry.
- Assist Indigenous Territorians, particularly those in regional and remote areas, to enter into employment.
- Increase knowledge amongst government, industry and the community, on the Northern Territory labour market and workforce issues.

There are four themes in *Jobs Plan* 3, these being:

**Strengthening Partnerships** – Links with Business and Industry, the Community, Registered Training Organisations, Government agencies and Unions
Recognises the importance of developing formal relationships between the Northern Territory Government, Australian Government, industry, the community and unions. Partnerships will result in improved training and employment outcomes for all Territorians.

**Jobs in the Bush** – Regional and Indigenous Economic Development
The Northern Territory Government will maintain and intensity its focus on employment for Territorians in regional and remote areas, particularly Indigenous Territorians. This means providing appropriate industry training and creating employment opportunities that are accessible to people living in these areas.

**Better Pathways** – Links between the Community, Business and Industry, Schools and Registered Training Organisations
The Northern Territory Government is striving to provide young Territorians with a variety of pathways and options to improve their transition from school to work. This will be achieved by industry, government, schools and registered training organisations working together to implement appropriate initiatives and strategies.

**Staying Informed** – Labour Market Research and Analysis
Builds on the foundation of the labour market information initiative introduced in previous Jobs Plans. A good knowledge and understanding of the Northern Territory’s labour market is necessary for the development of initiatives and strategies to provide all Territorians with the opportunity to participate in the workforce. Specific strategies and initiatives have been developed to achieve the aims and implement the themes.

Copies of *Jobs Plan* 3 can be downloaded from the Department of Employment, Education and Training’s (DEET’s) website at http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/employment/
For further information or queries, contact DEET on (08) 8901-1357
Sixty-seven jockeys and trainers at the Darwin Turf Club are on the home straight to national qualifications as part of a program recognising years of on-the-job training and experience.

Employment, Education and Training Minister Paul Henderson said the jockeys and trainers are among more than 120 Territory workers currently enrolled in BuildSkills NT programs, which aims to increase the productivity of the Territory’s workforce by re-skilling and up-skilling existing workers. “Many Territorians have years of on-the-job experience, but lack formal qualifications in their field,” Mr Henderson said.

“Using Recognition of Prior Learning, BuildSkills NT is helping these workers gain the qualifications they may need to meet industry or legislative requirements and keep pace with our growing economy and workforce.”

More than 150 workers have received formal qualifications through BuildSkills NT since it was launched in 2005, and the Territory Government has committed $500,000 a year for two years to continue to deliver the program as part of Jobs Plan 3.

The program has been expanded from its original categories of construction, automotive, engineering, mining and hospitality to include other areas of identified skill shortages or economic importance.

“$50 million is injected into the Territory economy during the Darwin Cup Carnival alone, making racing an important part of our lifestyle and economy,” said Mr Henderson.

“Through BuildSkills NT, these jockeys and trainers’ years of experience will be recognised with the formal qualifications needed to meet the racing industry’s new national codes of practice, as well as updated training in first aid, occupational health and safety and computer training.”

The BuildSkills NT program for the racing industry is based on a partnership between DEET and the Darwin Turf Club and is being delivered by TAFE NSW-Western Institute with input from Charles Darwin University.

A further five BuildSkills NT courses are currently underway to provide formal qualifications for 30 Indigenous tourist guides in remote areas; four drillers; 15 supervisors in the beef industry; 20 child care and aged care workers; and 20 builders.
Employment and Training Events

Nominations Closing Soon..

For the Northern Territory Training Awards in the following categories:

**Student Categories**
- Trainee of the Year
- Vocational Student of the Year
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year
- Austin Asche Apprentice of the Year
- School Based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year
- VET in Schools Student of the Year

**Organisation Categories**
- Small Business of the Year
- VET Teacher/Trainer of the Year
- Training Provider of the Year
- Bill McLaren VET in Schools Excellence Award
- Training Initiative Award
- Employer of the Year

Further information [www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au](http://www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au) or phone 08 8942 0458.

Photos: Top Anima Sherif, Winner of the School Based Apprentice Trainee of the Year. Bottom Michael Lane, Winner of the Austin Asche Apprentice of the Year.
The third annual Workforce NT Report has been released by Minister Paul Henderson. Mr Henderson said “The 2006 report provides an industry perspective on economic and workforce issues that will help government and industry to focus on strategic employment and training programs and initiatives.”

The 2006 Workforce NT report also includes information on:
· Economic impacts on the Territory labour market
· NT Industry Profiles
· Current skills shortages and labour market forecasts
· Top ten occupations in demand for 2007 for each major occupational group


For further information or to order your CD copy, please contact the Workforce NT Unit on 8901 1346.
Congratulations to Paul Kynigopoulos, the winner of the inaugural Gil Court Training Award. Paul received the award for outstanding apprentice achievement at the annual Resource Industry Awards of Excellence dinner hosted by the NT Minerals Council in April. The award was established by Major Industries Training Advisory Council (MITAC) in memory of the contributions to vocational education and training made by the late Gil Court and rewards exceptional achievements by an apprentice. Paul, who is a third year Group Training NT engineering apprentice working with Alcan Gove received a commemorative trophy, a cheque for $1000 and a personal digital assistant (PDA).

For further information on the Gil Court Training Award http://www.mitac.org.au/GilCourt.htm.

NT Occupation Shortage List 2007

DEET recently released the third annual NT Occupation Shortage List. The Deputy Chief Executive of DEET, John Hassed said “The Territory is experiencing a high demand for labour, and this list identifies a number of professional and trade occupation shortages across a range of industries. The NT Government is working with industry to develop programs that respond to the issues underlying labour shortages.” The NT Occupation Shortage List 2007 is available at:
For further information, please contact the Workforce NT Unit on 8901 1346.

Successful Applicants - 2007 Australians Working Together Grants

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<th>Partners</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
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<td>Bindi Centa Sales, Book City, Blooming Deserts</td>
<td>16-20 year old students with disabilities</td>
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<td>Anglicare NT</td>
<td>CDU Adult Migrant English Program, Myriad Group Training, Multicultural Council of NT</td>
<td>Long term unemployed migrants and refugees</td>
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<td>Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education</td>
<td>Darwin &amp; Alice Springs Correctional Centres, Max Employment</td>
<td>Due for release Indigenous male prison inmates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darwin Correctional Centre</td>
<td>International College for Advanced Education</td>
<td>Prisoners/Offenders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darwin Correctional Centre Women’s Prison</td>
<td>Leonie Norrington, Gail Evans and Freedom Summers (consultants)</td>
<td>Indigenous and non-Indigenous women prisoners</td>
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<td>Henbury School Council</td>
<td>Charles Darwin University, DEET Pathways and Transition Team, Project Employment</td>
<td>Students with disabilities 15 years +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Step Out Community Access Service Inc</td>
<td>Charles Darwin University</td>
<td>People with a disability</td>
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The world health organisation has announced the winners of its photo and video contest ‘images of health and disability’.

The animated CD, ‘Livin’ in a House’, has won second prize in the video category of this prestigious international competition. ‘Livin’ in a House’ was produced by Human Services Training Advisory Council in collaboration with Skinnyfish Music and was funded by the Beverage Industry Environment Council of Australia.

It features the extraordinary talents of Indigenous musician, George Mrurrambu, who wrote and recorded the theme song. George is an elder of the Gumatj clan and an elder of Indigenous music. He sees himself as a messenger and believes many stories can be told through song. He is passionate about people being responsible for their own living environment and wants his song to support the Indigenous environmental health workers in Australia.

The CD has been produced as a learning resource for Indigenous people living in remote communities and addresses some of the challenges around health, hygiene and house maintenance. It is an example of what can be achieved with collaboration between industry, Indigenous artists and the corporate world.

For further information about ‘Livin’ in a House’ contact Barbara Pitman on 08 8981 2550 or email b.pitman@hstac.com.au
Yilpara and Groote Eylandt
Stepping Stones Workshops

In late 2006, two Stepping Stones for Tourism workshops were run by Tourism NT at Yilpara and Groote Eylandt to support the development of the Yilpara Two Way Learning Centre and the Dugong Beach Resort, scheduled to open in late 2007.

Stepping Stones for Tourism is a highly flexible program which builds capacity for Indigenous communities and individuals to more effectively engage with tourism issues. Stepping Stones for Tourism helps Indigenous communities and individuals explore ideas for tourism and introduces steps for sound tourism development planning. The program is carried out on Aboriginal lands, for community planning, for use with Indigenous communities associated with protected areas, for more detailed concept development of emerging Indigenous tourism product and for community-based business plan development.

The two workshops were funded by DEET and were well attended with each covering informal discussions on a range of topics to help develop the business ideas.

Tourism Trainer, Ian Hutton was also present throughout both Stepping Stones workshops. Many of the participants also achieved competencies in various units in Certificate 1 in Tourism while at the same time discussing and documenting their aspirations for involvement in the Territory’s growing tourism industry.

Civil Construction Training continues at Canteen Creek

A group of men participating in a program through Canteen Creek Owairtilla Association CDEP are nearing completion of a training program in plant machinery operations. The machinery they are working with includes a backhoe/loader, dozer and grader, all of which are owned and maintained by the Association.

The program involves the participants working on contracts the Association has with the Transport and Works ‘Roads to Recovery’ program, by maintaining a 50km stretch of road from Frew River to the community and grading around the power and water compounds through a contract with the Power and Water Corporation. The men have also worked at the community dump.

Kathy Gers, Community Assistant said: “It’s hard to put into words what this project has done for the community. “The self-esteem of the men shines through and the sense of ownership and pride towards their community has risen. Learning invaluable skills such as how to drive the large machinery which hopefully may lead to future fulltime employment has been invaluable’. Until they commenced this course, some participants had never driven before.

The other excellent outcome from this program is that there has been a 100% participation rate.

Ian Chamberlain, a Tennant Creek trainer has been employed by the Centre for Appropriate Technology to train the group. Ian has since agreed to extend his contract to deliver a further seven units from the Certificate III in Civil Construction to the men. This additional training will prepare them for any road maintenance contracts the Association may be successful in tendering for in the future. Should the Association be successful, these participants will be employed full time and move off CDEP.

All up, the participants will undertake 932 hours of training funded by DEET through its Flexible Response Funding program.
iMovie Training in Wadeye Community

The community of Wadeye are working hard to ensure good news stories are shared. Using video production to highlight the work of individuals, work places and the school will help foster community understanding and enthusiasm for involvement.

Trainees from Thamarrurr Rangers, the Wadeye Aboriginal Language Centre, Wadeye Knowledge Centre and the Literacy Production Centre at the OLSH School are undertaking a computer based iMove multi media program to produce local DVDs. This specifically tailored training is being undertaken through individual men and women’s workshops.

The DVDs will be broadcast over BRACS, the local television channel which provides free to air television in the community. The DVDs will also be kept as a historical record by the local museum. The training involves taking video footage, importing it together with audio and still photographs and creating a short movie. The participants then edit the clips, add titles, music and sound and export to a DVD.

The work undertaken by Rangers is very important in helping celebrate culture, and enhance educational opportunities in the community. Some of the participants are involved in recording the traditional stories and knowledge of the elders, promoting their work to the community and recording important community events. They are also educating the community about land care issues via BRACS.

Luke Bayley, Manager said: “The program is a work in progress. We have only just started taking film of what we do in our work, such as weed control works, croc catching, different environmental programs that assist with ‘Caring for Country’, creating bush soaps and sea patrols”.

“This is an effective form of communication to be used locally and will assist the residents of Wadeye to see what work we do and what positive things are going on, Mr Bayley added”. The real strength in this project is that the Rangers are making the movies themselves and sharing their stories. There is a long way to go but the Rangers have made a great start.

The skills and knowledge gained from the workshops provides participants with ownership and control in developing their own community resources and historical records. It also ensures that essential services such as the clinic policy and cyclone warnings are produced by local people for the local community. DEET provided financial assistance for the training through its Training for Remote Youth program.
Alice Springs Desert Park (ASDP) apprentice guide, Matthew Turner, has won Group Training Northern Territory’s Trainee of the Year Award for the Central Australian Region. ASDP Specialist Guide, Regena Medhurst, said that since Matthew’s first day as a Trainee guide with the Alice Springs Desert Park he has been firmly in the public eye.

"His effervescent personality and charming demeanour have made him an instant hit with visitors and colleagues alike," Ms Medhurst said.

"There is no doubt that Matthew has added an extra spark to the Desert Park Guide team."

“He is currently developing a new presentation entitled ‘Wicked Witchetty Grubs’, about the life cycle of the grubs and his experiences with them. We expect him to be independently delivering this to park visitors in the near future.” Matthew has presented numerous talks with each of the guide staff and says his favourite presentations include Incredible Edibles and Desert Rivers Discovery Walk.

Matthew says that he has definitely grown as a person in the last nine months of his traineeship at the ASDP and does not let anything stop him from getting on with his job.

“I could let things get in my way and of course there are things that I can’t do, but everything I can I do my best at and make sure I am always smiling,” Mr Turner said. “Also as a young person I think I have bought a different perspective to the work crew and I am a much more confident team member.”

Matt said,"That he feels without this traineeship he would not be the person he is nor where he is in life today.”

The Group Training Awards have been presented in
• Darwin
• Katherine
• Groote Eylant
• Nhulunbuy
• Alice Springs

for more information and award winners
Families and local school children joined VIPs to celebrate the success of nine trainees who finished their Certificate III in Forests and Forest Products and now have permanent jobs with Great Southern on Melville Island.

Chief Minister Clare Martin addressed the children watching the graduation ceremony at Nguiu on Bathurst Island, saying this is why you go to school – because it’s fun and to learn so you can get good jobs.

Marion Scrymgour, Member for Arafura, spoke of the history of forestry on the Tiwi Islands and the vision of earlier Tiwi leaders for economic and social development.

John Young, Managing Director of Great Southern Limited, said that traineeships are an ongoing program. Also addressing the children, he said boys - and girls - here today can think about whether they want to be a forestry worker.

The graduates thanked their forestry trainer Lindsay Williams and mentor Kelvin Stewart. DEET funded Industries Services Training, who provided the training.

The nine graduates have full time jobs on a live-in roster at Maxwell Creek on Melville Island. A second intake of forestry trainees has joined the staff at Maxwell Creek.
Conferences, Workshops Grants etc......

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<td>Supporting VET providers in building capability for the future</td>
<td>28 August</td>
<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Melbourne - Rydges Carlton</td>
<td>June Ingham 08 8230 8491 or <a href="mailto:events@ncver.edu.au">events@ncver.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>Supporting VET providers in building capability for the future</td>
<td>29 August</td>
<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Hobart Function &amp; Conference Centre</td>
<td>June Ingham 08 8230 8491 or <a href="mailto:events@ncver.edu.au">events@ncver.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>30 August</td>
<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Brisbane - Marriot Hotel</td>
<td>June Ingham 08 8230 8491 or <a href="mailto:events@ncver.edu.au">events@ncver.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>Supporting VET providers in building capability for the future</td>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Sydney - Novotel Olympic Park</td>
<td>June Ingham 08 8230 8491 or <a href="mailto:events@ncver.edu.au">events@ncver.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>10 September</td>
<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Adelaide - National Wine Centre of Australia</td>
<td>June Ingham 08 8230 8491 or <a href="mailto:events@ncver.edu.au">events@ncver.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Perth - Novotel Langley</td>
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<td>17 September</td>
<td>NCVER</td>
<td>Albury - Convention &amp; Performing Arts Centre</td>
<td>June Ingham 08 8230 8491 or <a href="mailto:events@ncver.edu.au">events@ncver.edu.au</a></td>
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2007 Australian Vocational Students Prize

The Australian Vocational Students Prize recognises and encourages outstanding senior secondary students undertaking a Vocational Education and Training in Schools programme or an Australian School-based Apprentice / Trainee. Students demonstrating exceptional skill, commitment and achievement will be recognised with a prize of $2,000 and a certificate. Nominations close on 14 June 2007

Who is Eligible?
A student is eligible for nomination if he / she:
· will complete Year 12 in 2007;
· as part of their senior secondary studies has made substantial progress towards or completed a Vocational Education and Training in Schools programme or an Australian School-based Apprenticeship / Traineeship at Certificate II level or above and;
· is an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

A guide to completing the Nomination Form and the Nomination Form will be available for downloading at www.dest.gov.au/schools/avsp.