

QUEANBEYAN AGE COLUMN 8 FEBRUARY 2008

Addressing trade skills shortages – This has been a real problem for Queanbeyan, Canberra and Australia generally for many years. With so many seemingly glamorous employment options in newer technologies, the trade option has suffered significantly. The upshot of this is that people with genuine trade skills are now highly sought after.

In recognising this, QBC announced during 2007 that it was offering scholarships for trade students at Queanbeyan High School's new Trade School and for Queanbeyan students at CIT's Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Services. Two students at each facility will get financial assistance towards books, tools and other needs.

To find out more, enrolled students should contact Queanbeyan High School Principal John Clark, or Deputy Dean, Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management at CIT, Jerome de Rose, for eligibility. Further information can also be obtained from Simon Mitchell-Taverner at Queanbeyan Business Council on 6299 7152.

Last week, QBC Executive members sought clarification from Member for Eden-Monaro, Hon. Dr. Mike Kelly MP, of Federal Government's position regarding High School Technical Colleges and Australian Technical Colleges. Dr. Kelly advised that the new Labor Government would honour contracts from the previous government. He believed the Australian Technical College in Queanbeyan had the potential to be highly complimentary to the plan for Trade Skills in local High Schools.

Whilst Queanbeyan currently has very low unemployment (about 2%), this will not always be the case. The important thing for young people is to figure out what skills will be most needed in the future. Filling the current trades gaps may well be a good option for many.

'Short Sharp and Shiny' from the Capital Region BEC

NEW workshop series with Paul Coker

This is a series of four business development workshops that have been designed to help business people who want answers NOW!

BEC's presenter for this new series is Paul Coker, Principal of Coker Coaching & Facilitation. Paul is well known in business facilitation services throughout our region, including six years as Manager of the Canberra Business Advisory Service.

His first workshop is "How to Write Ads that Work".

Amongst other topics, Paul will demonstrate how just changing a headline can increase the effectiveness of an ad by 200%, 500% or more!

This workshop is all about making advertising work for YOU!

Date: Tuesday 19th February 2008, Time: 5.30pm to 8.00pm

Location: Capital Region BEC (training room) at 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan, which is the home of both the BEC and Queanbeyan Business Council.

Cost: \$69 per person. Details call Helena look on www.crbec.com.au for further details.