



## ACFE Board update and 2022 Learn Local Awards nominations open

4 April 2023

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Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Adult, Community and Further Education Board, I hope this email finds you well as the end of the first term nears.

It is exciting that the 2022 Victorian Learn Local Awards are now open, and I strongly encourage you to submit a nomination. The Awards are such an important way to celebrate the best learners, trainers, leaders, and providers in the sector and the innovation and partnerships you have forged as part of the work you do and impact you make as Learn Locals in your communities. Please think about this and look at the categories and nomination information available on the Learn Local Awards website.

Nominations close at midnight on Friday 10 June, and you can receive free nomination assistance by contacting the Learn Local Awards team by email or call 1800 413 622 to find out more.

The ACFE Regional Councils have all just held their first meetings for the year and they also had a chance to all catch up on the 1st of March for an information session with the Board and Department leaders. This session covered a range of key matters including a discussion on the strategic focus for Councils for 2022 that will support the Board's work, especially following the Parliamentary Secretary for Training and Skills' *Strengthening Regional Councils Review*. The Board, Regional Councils and the Department are working hard to implement the Review's recommendations to ensure Regional Councils are able to fulfil their critical dual-role of providing key strategic advice to the Board and advocating for the Learn Local sector.

The Board, with the support from the Department and Regional Councils, is committed to further strengthening the sector, building on your great work and finding the best strategies and solutions to support providers to address the needs of learners and communities as we all strive to realise the goals and aspirations of the Ministerial Statement on the Future of Adult Community Education in Victoria 2020 – 2025. With this in mind, the Board is planning to hold two to three pulse check sessions early in Term 2 to hear directly from you about the year - what has gone well, what you think the Board needs to be aware of and how we may support the sector further. Also, my Board colleagues and I are involved in consultations with the Victorian Skills Authority to ensure that the value and impact of the Learn Local sector, along with the needs of its learners, are appropriately addressed in the inaugural Victorian Skills Plan that is currently being developed. The Department is also progressing work with the newly established Office of TAFE Coordination and Delivery to ensure the Victorian TAFE network is supported to engage and collaborate with you to achieve the best outcomes for learners possible, no matter what kind of learning and employment pathway they may be on.

I am also looking forward to getting out to visit Learn Locals across the state in coming months. These

visits are an important part of the ACFE Board's role and are enjoyed and valued by all Board members. They are a wonderful opportunity for providers to showcase their work to Board members, and for us to meet and speak with staff and learners to understand the unique circumstances of each organisation that we support. The Department will be reaching out to a number of providers across the state to plan these visits.

I hope you and your learners all have a positive end to Term 1. Thank you again for all that you do for our learners and the contribution to our sector. The Board is incredibly appreciative.

Have a lovely and relaxing break.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maria Peters', written in a cursive style.

Maria Peters

Chairperson

Adult, Community and Further Education Board

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