

## MLA Launches C4 Building and Construction Program

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**M**ick Gentleman MLA, (pictured above) launching the new C4 Building and Construction Program conducted by the Master Builders Association Group Training Company, ACT Regional Building and Construction Industry Training Council, ACT Department of Education and Training and financially supported by the Training Fund Authority.

Known as the C4 program (Central Canberra Construction Cluster) and because it involves students from four government high schools centrally located in the ACT. The high schools involved in the program are Melrose, Alfred Deakin, Telopea Park and Stromlo.

Mr Gentleman, said the introduction of the program to the central region of Canberra provided support and encouragement to students in their efforts in completing their Year 10 Certificate, transition into college and provides innovative educational opportunities for our students.

“The model that underpins the program is proving to be very successful in providing quality and engaging education for young people in the ACT. These sorts of programs demonstrate an ongoing commitment to ACT and national education goals, particularly those associated with providing students with ‘work ready’ skills and competencies.”

“The C4 program supports the ACT Government’s priority to encourage all young people to complete thirteen years of schooling and achieve a Year 12 Certificate or equivalent vocational qualification.”

“This new C4 Building and Construction Program, as part of the ‘Kids at Risk’ program, provides opportunities for young people to make informed decisions in relation to career pathways and further study and training while supporting students to receive a nationally recognised qualification, to be employed on a part-time basis, to stay at school to complete their Year 10 Certificate and to have on-the-job training recognised on their Year 12 Certificate. In short, this innovative program enhances the career outcomes for ACT students.”

“The success of other programs such as the Building Industry Skill Enhancement Program (BISEP) and the Ginninderra Relevant Apprenticeships for Pre Employment Skills and Education (GRAPES), is evidence by the choice of all participants to engage in this program, in the hope of continuing on into further training or employment in the Building and Construction industry.”

“I am confident this program will also contribute to improving the broader employability skills, lifelong learning attributes, life skills and self-esteem of our young people.” Mr Gentleman said.

The Executive Director of the MBA, Mr David Dawes said the ‘Kids at Risk’ Construction Program reflected the building industry’s continuing commitment to providing school-based programs aimed at assisting those students most at need.

“We aim to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes from such exercises by providing these students with a future career at the same time as overcoming skills shortages in our industry.” Mr Dawes said.



**The 13 school students participating in the C4 Building and Construction Program with David Dawes MBA, Mick Gentleman MLA, and Vince Ball CITC.**



## Nominations for the ACT Occupational Health and Safety Awards 2006

Nominations for the ACT OH&S Awards 2006 are now open. The awards are held annually and have three major aims:

- To encourage public and private sector workplaces to develop and implement initiatives that will result in safer and healthier workplaces in the ACT.
- To share learning and ideas, and help the award winning initiatives gain widespread practical application in workplace throughout the ACT.
- To publicly acknowledge significant achievements in effective workplace health and safety.

There are 5 categories in the 2006 ACT OH&S Awards.

1. Best Workplace Health and Safety Management System 2. Best Solution to an Identified Workplace Health and Safety Issue 3. Best Workplace Health and Safety Practices in Small Business 4. Best Individual Contribution to Health and Safety 5. Most Successful Promotion of OH&S in Workplace.

Winners of the first four ACT OH&S Award categories automatically qualify for entry in the national *Safe Work Australia Awards 2006*.

The 2006 awards ceremony will be held on 26 October at the National Museum. Nominations close 1 August.

Conditions of entry, category criteria and nomination forms can be found at [www.workcover.act.gov.au](http://www.workcover.act.gov.au), or contact ACT WorkCover on ☎6205 0200.

In calendar year 2005, the **Training Fund Authority** provided funding of \$475,700 for OH&S training which resulted in 4,069 training places for ACT workers.

## Attention Employers

If you are an employer in the ACT building and construction industry, you would be aware of significant skill shortages across a wide range of sectors including the following nominated trades:

Painting & Decorating  
Horticulture (Turf)  
Horticulture (Landscaping)

To encourage and assist employers and host employers to employ apprentices in the above trades, the Training Fund Authority will provide eligible employers a \$5,000 training incentive who employ a 1st year apprentice in 2006 under an ACT Contract of Training in the nominated trades.

### Training Incentive payments will be in two instalments:

- \$2,000 when your apprentice completes the first 3 months of their apprenticeship
- \$3,000 when your apprentice completes the first 12 months of their apprenticeship

**Note:** Training Incentives are equally divided between ACT Group Training Organisations and their host employers on a pro-rata basis.

## Host employers share the benefits associated with training apprentices



L-R, Chris Hancock (1st year apprentice) Bill Lampard (Apprentice Field Officer, HIA) Ben Brissenden (Director, Standbridge Painting & Restoration) receiving an on-the-job training incentive from Gary Guy (Chief Executive Officer, Training Fund Authority)

Ben Brissenden was first host employer with Bill Lampard (HIA) to receive the joint on-the-job training incentive from the Training Fund Authority under its **2006 Skill Shortage Program**.

For further details about the Training Fund Authority's **2006 Skill Shortage Program**, refer to the promotional advertisement on this page.



## 2006 ACT Training Excellence Awards

The 2006 ACT Training Excellence Awards will take place on 24 August at the National Convention Centre.

The Awards recognise the achievements, knowledge and skill of individuals participating in Vocational Education and Training in the ACT.

They also recognise employers and Registered Training Organisations that provide high quality training resulting in the enhancement of skills in the ACT workforce.

For further information, contact Cindi Hage ☎6205 8335

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