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Newsletter

Issue No. 95 - April 2020

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TFA continues to support industry during COVID19

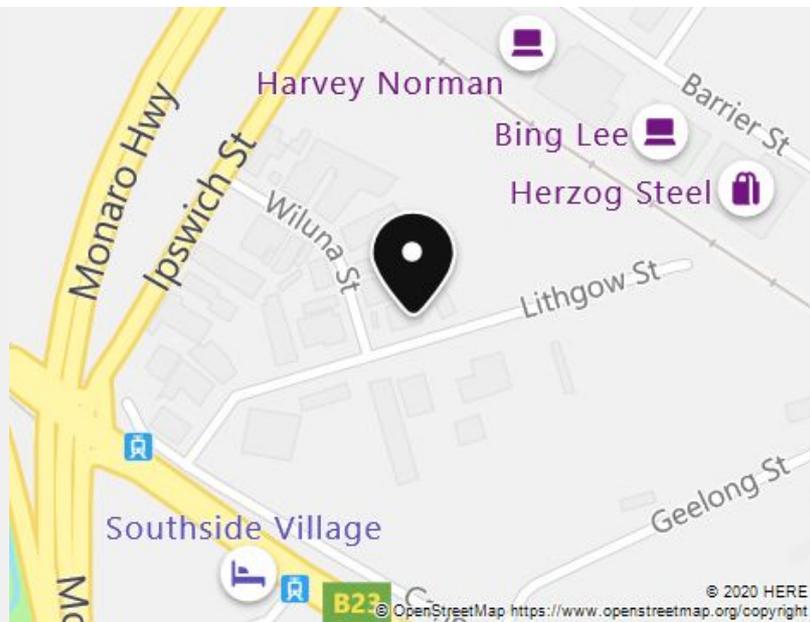
The Authority wishes to advise that is very much business as usual during the current COVID 19 restrictions. The Authority is working closely with local Registered Training organizations to assist them in preparing adaptations to the social distancing requirements that have effected many face to face training programs that industry require. We continue to receive many training applications from businesses and employees for professional development training for the period up to 31st December 2020, noting many comments from industry that given the likelihood of a slowing of the usual demand, now is an opportune time to further develop skills to better position their businesses and workers for the opportunities to arise post COVID 19.

If you have any training related questions please do not hesitate to contact the Authority or simply contact the many Registered Training Organisations listed in the 2020 Annual Training plan, found on the Authority website trainingfund.com.au



Australian Government
**Department of Education,
 Skills and Employment**

Sarina Russo
Apprenticeships



- [15 Wiluna Street, Fyshwick, ACT 2609](#)
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Supporting Apprentices and Trainees

Employers can begin registering to receive a 50 percent subsidy for wages paid to apprentices between January to March this year.

Wage subsidies will be available to small businesses, including those using a Group Training Organisation, to help retain existing apprentices and trainees.

Employers of any size who re-engage an apprentice or trainee that has been displaced from a small business may also attract a wage subsidy.

The apprentice or trainee must have been in-training with a small business as at 1 March 2020.

Subsidies will cover wages paid from 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020. Businesses will be reimbursed up to \$7,000 per quarter, up to a maximum of \$21,000, per eligible apprentice or trainee. Final claims for payment must be lodged by 31 December 2020.

For further information on how to apply for the subsidy, including information on eligibility, contact an [Australian Apprenticeship Support Network provider](#).

WorkSafe ACT's

role is to enforce the Territory's health and safety and worker's compensation laws through a mixture of education and compliance activities

Asbestos Awareness Training - Update

The Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 requires that a person conducting a business or undertaking must ensure that all of their workers who they reasonably believe will work with *asbestos* or *asbestos* containing materials are *trained* in the Course in *Asbestos Awareness* - 1067NAT (previously 1031NAT).

Date

Updated: 15/04/2020 https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/3093/kw/Awareness



Ms Jacqueline Agius the newly appointed WorkSafe Commissioner

WorkSafe ACT Appoints a New Commissioner

Following the recent retirement of the ACT Work Safety Commissioner Greg Jones from the ACT Public Service, the ACT Government announced the appointment of Ms Jacqueline Agius to the role.

A Unionist and former criminal defence lawyer Jacqueline Agius has been appointed the ACT's new Work Health and Safety Commissioner.

Ms Agius – who was the senior industrial officer at the ACT branch of the Australian Education Union (AEU) – commenced in her new role as commissioner on 28 April embarking on a 5 year term.

As part of her initial tasks Ms Agius will continue to work to implement the 27 recommendations made in the 2018 independent review of the ACT's work safety compliance infrastructure, policies, and procedures.

Ms Agius also served on the board of the ACT Work Safety Council from 2016 to 2019, an experience that will help her facilitate negotiations between unions, businesses, workers and the government to develop the framework for the new policies.

“Fundamental to a successful economy and fair workplaces is the right for workers to return home after a day’s work in the same state that they left home for work in the morning,” Ms Agius said. “This is an exciting opportunity to ensure that workers are front and centre of work safety in the ACT” she said.

WorkSafe ACT became an independent entity in December last year when the ACT Government amended the Work Health and Safety Act after a recommendation from the 2018 independent review.

Newsletter Contributions: The TFA Newsletter aim’s is to raise awareness of events and new training initiatives within the Building & Construction sector in the ACT.

Organisations wishing to include articles are requested to [email Mick Doyle on mdoyle@trainingfund.com.au](mailto:mdoyle@trainingfund.com.au)



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