N E W S L E T T E R
OCTOBER 2015



## **GENERATION**



## WELCOME

A lot can happen in a month. A new Prime Minister has been appointed and also the first ever Indigenous Australian frontbencher, The Hon. Ken Wyatt. A fantastic achievement. It's important to remember with all the challenges that face Indigenous people there is so much progress and we have come a long way in the last few decades. We love to share the stories of Indigenous success and achievements through our Facebook page which is just shy of 100,000 followers! We are fast approaching 3,000 people being placed into employment through the VTEC network this year. Almost 3, 000 individual people whose lives have been positively changed through the benefits of employment. Disparity still exists but I am proud to be part of something that is truly making a difference in the lives of individuals, families and communities.

It's not always easy, but the challenges will motivate us to continue our efforts always with the big picture in mind – ending the disparity in our generation. The VTEC network is driving us towards this goal and the stories we share in these newsletters are a credit to these teams and their business and community partners.

GenerationOne would also like to take this opportunity to announce two new members to our staff – Leon Epong and Mark Thomson are the new Queensland and Victoria VTEC managers, respectively and we welcome them to our team.



Jeremy Donovan GenerationOne

# Collaborative effort ensures 10 new employees start in the Pilbara



Facilities management company Morris Corporation, together with Australia's leading recruitment specialist, WorkPac are creating innovative Indigenous employment opportunities after introducing a new Indigenous Recruitment and Work Ready program. The initiative includes collaboration with several other established stakeholders in the Pilbara Region including **Bloodwood Tree VTEC** and Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation.

Since the program commenced in September 2015, 10 new staff have completed work ready training and have commenced work in established vacancies from reception to kitchen hands, cleaners and housekeepers at accommodation villages for Fortescue Metals Group.

The joint venture allows potential recruits to attend a three week work ready program that covers everything from health, fitness and general job awareness delivered by Matera Foundation.

This program was made possible with collaboration of multiple stakeholders and

thanks to Sharon Jones at GenerationOne for coordinating all stakeholders, including those who provided the following contributions:

Fortescue Metals Group:

providing Accommodation

Matera Foundation:

delivering the Job Ready programme

Shire of Port Hedland:

providing gym facilities

WorkPac is committed to actively promoting the benefits of increasing Indigenous participation rates with relevant industry bodies and clients. We assist in developing, promoting and enhancing 'culturally aware' work environments through

responsive proactive Human Resource frameworks.



### VTEC and GenerationOne exhibit at NESA

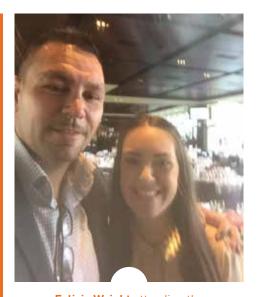
The NESA Conference on the Gold Coast this week provided a great platform for GenerationOne to showcase the great work VTEC's are doing and also to link with other key industry stakeholders. A pleasing outcome at the conference was the positive interest from Jobactive providers and their willingness to know where their nearest VTEC is and how to work better together. Enquiries at the Generation One booth was constant and always positive.



Leon Epong, GenerationOne and
Erica Evans, Department of Prime Minister
& Cabinet teaming up to promote VTEC
at the recent National Employment Services
Association conference supported by the
Australian Government Department of

Being part of the GenerationOne stand at NESA presented a great opportunity to demonstrate the partnership and commitment from both organisations to the successful delivery of VTEC services. It was encouraging to have so many of the delegates and sponsors approach us looking to discuss the opportunities provided under the VTEC initiative and to share their experiences in different locations around the country. The increased focus of the job active providers on securing employment outcomes for their job seekers was reflected in their interest in knowing how they and the VTEC Provider could work collaboratively towards these goals.

Erica Evans



Felicia Wright attending the
WhiteLion AFL Luncheon at the MCG
with Jeremy Donovan as part of her
CEO for a Day experience.

"We want all Indigenous Australians to dream big, and work hard to achieve their goals. Felicia is a strong, smart and proud Indigenous woman whose future is bright. It's inspiring to spend a day with the next generation of leaders"

- Jeremy Donovan

## Programmed's ongoing success with VTECs

Natasha joined Programmed via the Yarn'n Aboriginal Employment Services program in 2014. She has since completed an administration traineeship and is now engaged as a full time consultant in Programmed's National Service Centre.

Natasha is a proud Kamillaroi and Yuin woman. She is one of the first in her family to have completed high school education, an achievement of which she is very proud.

When asked about the best part of working for Programmed Natasha said "I really like the environment in our office, and the great way we celebrate significant occasions, like NAIDOC Week and Harmony Day. I have been given many opportunities that have helped me grow as a person within the company".

Natasha would one day like to continue her studies, but in the short term aims to be the best National Service Centre Consultant that she can be and be a contributing team member and pro-actively expand her knowledge of the contracts we support.

Due to the success of the Yarn'n employment program, Programmed have recently employed a second trainee to undertake further training and development with Programmed.

This is part of Programmed's long standing commitment to attracting and retaining talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders people and ongoing partnership with GenerationOne and VTEC providers.

GenerationOne and Programmed were honoured to receive the Collaborative Partnership Award at the 2014 Facility Management Industry Award for Excellence. The award is presented annually to a partnership that has delivered innovative and integrated solutions in the facilities management industry.

The award recognises the collaboration between GenerationOne and Programmed to create sustainable employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



GenerationOne and Programmed also presented at the Facility Management Association annual conference about changing the game on Aboriginal engagement – partnering to close the gap.



Natasha Janif (National Service Centre Consultant) and Jamaica Lopes (Administration Trainee), part of the Programmed team in NSW.

## **Practical experience** in a political office for a **VTEC Graduate**

Senator for Western Sydney and recently appointed Minister for Defence, the Hon. Marise Payne, is doing her bit to boost Indigenous employment, recruiting Blacktown Marist Youth **Care VTEC** graduate Cassandra Pickering as a trainee electorate officer in her Parramatta Electorate Office.

Cassandra, a Mount Druitt local, is also studying for a Certificate III in Business Administration at Blacktown TAFE to back up her on-the-job experience.



"It's a great honour to work with Senator Payne," Cassandra said. "It was especially exciting to visit Parliament House in Canberra and see how the whole process works.

"The traineeship is a great start for me and gives me the option of pursuing a career in public service or in a business-related area."

Senator Payne said she was thrilled to participate in the Government's VTEC program, adding that Cassandra is a great addition to her team.

"We're delighted to have Cassandra on board," Senator Payne said. "It's a great opportunity for her to get some practical experience in a political office whilst building a foundation through formal qualifications.

"It's important that we as members of parliament back up our words on increasing indigenous employment by actually giving someone a go and I encourage other inquire about taking on a VTEC graduate."



GenerationOne would like to extend their congratulations to the Hon. Marise Payne on her appointment as Defence Minister.

## **Changing Lives** Through Employment VTEC



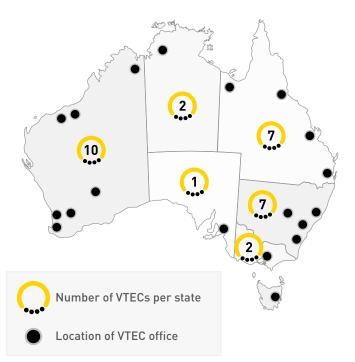
Vocational Training and Employment Centres (VTECs) have successfully placed nearly 3,000 Indigenous people into work already with a target of filling 5,000 jobs by the end of this year. 29 VTECs are located across the country. VTECs are fully funded by the Australian Government and are based upon the GenerationOne employment model. Whether you are an Indigenous person looking for work or are an employer looking for staff that have been trained to your requirements, VTECs are for you.

For further information visit www.vtec.org.au

Supported by







# A Comment

#### WΑ

- atWork Australia
- Kimberley Group Training
- Fortescue Metal Group
- Apprenticeships Australia CCI WA
- Wirrpanda Foundation
- Max Network
- Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation
- Onslow Workforce Labour Solutions
- Bloodwood Tree Association Inc
- Fairbridge



#### NT

- Group Training NT
- Karen Sheldon Training & Development



#### QLD

- Skill360
- Myuma Dugalunji Aboriginal Corporation
- Indigenous Workstars
- Mission Australia
- BoysTown
- Energy Skills Queensland
- Max Solutions



#### **NSW**

- Real Futures
- Habitat Personnel
- Ability Options Employment
- MYC Skills & Development Centre
- Yarn'n Aboriginal Employment Services
- MPREC APM
- TAFE NSW Western Institute



#### VIC

- MEGT
- AFL SportsReady



#### SA

Maxima



#### TAS

AFL SportsReady

# END INDIGENOUS DISPARITY IN ONE GENERATION THROUGH EMPLOYMENT

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GenerationOne recently supported a group of young Indigenous women as part of the Dreamtime Project on a cultural exchange program to participate in New York Fashion Week.