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State recognition for a local leader!

EQIP Gladstone is pleased to announce that we will be attending the Queensland Training Awards in Brisbane on the 1st September as a Premiers Industry Collaboration Award State Finalist. This award recognises the unique and innovative collaboration between EQIP, local State high schools, and business and industry for Authentic Workplace Learning.

Authentic Workplace Learning programs are targeted at year 10-12 Toolooa, Tannum Sands, and Gladstone state high school students to help them develop work-ready skills, experience and knowledge to support a smoother transition from education to employment or further study.

“We do this by assisting the schools to build the student’s confidence and capability, help them plan for their future, and provide them with authentic workplace experiences,” said EQIP General Manager Melissa Dennis.

Melissa commented that EQIP is extremely passionate about contributing to Gladstone’s prosperity and investing in the skill development of young people in our Region. “In 2016, 205 year 10-12 students participated in an authentic workplace learning program and we were pleased to see 53 graduating students secure employment.”

Since 2012, EQIP and our partners Shell QGC, Australia Pacific LNG and Santos GLNG have supported 90 indigenous year 10 students to build confidence and capability, explore career pathways, and build skills and knowledge to support informed career decisions.

Between 2011 and 2016, 8% of all graduates who secured a trade apprenticeship were female. In 2017, 40% of all students are female and 8% are participating in a pre-trade program. EQIP’s goal is to increase female participation in our pre-trade programs to support diversity and inclusion in trade and STEM career pathways.

“In 2017, EQIP is working with 42 host employers to provide 221 year 10-12 students with around 5,850 days of structured work experience aligned to their career pathway,” Ms Dennis said.

Students complete certificate qualifications and gain experience in a range of vocations in civil construction, engineering manufacturing, process plant operations, automotive mechanical, construction, resources & infrastructure operations, business, tourism, and health care and social services.

EQIP provides a holistic service through additional programs that include employability skill development workshops, work experience, and the yearly Gladstone Careers Expo. In 2017 year-to-date, EQIP has assisted 8 local high schools and 3 regional high schools to create 2,032 student learning and development opportunities with 232 employers across all programs.

“The Management Committee and our partners are thrilled to have received recognition at this level and look forward to continuing our collaboration with schools and the community on relevant programs that meet employment needs,” Ms Dennis said.

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EQIP is a not-for-profit association that is committed to skill development for young people in the Gladstone Region. We collaborate with local high schools, business and industry to create opportunities for young people to build employability skills and knowledge and connect them with the community and prospective employers. EQIP works with 6 Advisory Committees to gather insights and trends to ensure alignment to industry expectations and employment needs.

