

SkillsIQ NSW ITAB eNews

Issue: May 2022

Welcome to the May issue of the SkillsIQ NSW eNews. And what a month it has been and an even busier week. This week we have seen the Federal election result in an Albanese led Labor Government with 3 seats yet to be decided, as well as change in both Liberal and Nationals leadership. Let's see what lies ahead in the first few months as Ministers and portfolios are assigned. Last week the NSW Industry Forum was held, with sell-out attendance by stakeholders across the service industries. The forum addressed the issues of post-pandemic economic recovery and the implications of skills shortages. We looked at the image of our industries to identify how employers can reposition themselves as employers of choice by providing clearer pathways for sustainable jobs and rewarding careers. Lastly, we focused on young learners and how industry can improve its engagement with both schools and job seekers to provide opportunities for skills development on the job.

Training Package Update

SIT Tourism, Travel and Hospitality

- [Cookery](#) project is complete and will be published in line with the full SIT training package following the AISC meeting in April to ensure that all the SIT qualifications have the same updated versions of the cross sector SIT units including the updated RSA unit.
- [Events, Travel, Tourism](#) and [Hospitality](#) training package products were approved at the AISC's meeting in April and are now awaiting Ministerial endorsement prior to publication on training.gov.au.

SIS Sport, Fitness and Recreation

- [Sport and Recreation and Aquatic and Community Recreation](#) Draft 2 Consultation is now open until Friday, 17 June 2022. If you work in the sport, aquatic, fitness and recreation industry, provide swim lessons, or manage people in the sport and recreation facilities, you can provide feedback on Draft 2 of the Sport, Aquatic and Recreation qualifications, skill sets, and units of competency. [Click here](#) to register for one of 4 information webinars. Alternatively, you can go to the SkillsIQ Online [Feedback Forum](#) to provide any comment.

Infection prevention and control

The following two Units of Competency in the HLT Health Training Package are being reviewed and updated:

- HLTINF001- Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures
- HLTINF003- Implement and monitor infection prevention and control policies and procedures.

Draft 2 of the Units of Competency and associated Assessment Requirements will be open for public consultation on the [SkillsIQ Feedback Forum](#) in July for 2 weeks.

SkillsIQ NSW Industry Forum

Kick start careers with sustainable jobs for local people; driving economic recovery by rebuilding skills to boost the recruitment and retention of staff.

The SkillsIQ NSW Industry Forum was held on Thursday 26 May at the Business Western Sydney Business and Events Centre, Parramatta Square, the heartland of Sydney's economic and jobs growth.

We had a great line-up of speakers including Mathew Pearson, A/Executive Director Training Services NSW, Dr Sherman Chan, Chief Economist [Business NSW](#), Claire Field, Principal [Claire Field and Associates](#), Sandy Chong from [AHC](#) and Nathan Lovett from [NICI](#), Dean Minchington, Managing Director [WorkforceIQ](#), David Williams, CEO [MWLP](#) and many more. We had the opportunity to share our ideas to reposition the service industries to provide strong and exciting careers underpinned by vocational education and training. Thank you to our presenters, participants and though able to join on Zoom, and of course a big shout out to the many SkillsIQ NSW IAC members for their support of the forum.



NSW Update

Training Services NSW

Smart and Skilled Performance-based contracting and funding arrangements for the 2022-2023 activity period. Performance-based contracting allows the Department to measure the quality and performance of the overall market and adjust market settings to support the delivery of high-quality vocational training outcomes. The focus is on students gaining the skills they need to be employable and adaptable and contribute to the productivity and prosperity of NSW.

In 2021-22, the Department began implementing performance-based contracting and funding arrangements for Smart and Skilled. The aim is to ensure that student outcomes inform the Department's contracting and funding decisions to deliver a higher quality government-subsidised VET market in NSW. Providers are incentivised to continuously improve and strengthen the outcomes for their students and increase the benefits students gain from their Smart and Skilled training, which will in turn have a positive impact on employers and the economy.

As part of the current **NSW Skills List Optimisation** process, we can report that 16 qualifications were proposed to be removed from the NSW Skills List including; SIT40116 Certificate IV in Travel and Tourism, SFL30115 Certificate III in Floristry, SHB50115 Diploma of Beauty Therapy and SIR40316 Certificate IV in Retail Management. Following consultation with training providers and industry stakeholders, the revised recommendations are as follows:

- SIT40116 Certificate IV in Travel and Tourism to be kept on the NSW Skills List
- SFL30115 Certificate III in Floristry to be kept on the NSW Skills List (training providers to improve connection to industry in keeping with the NSW Quality [Framework](#))
- SHB50115 Diploma of Beauty Therapy to be kept on the NSW Skills List (training providers to improve connection to industry in keeping with the NSW Quality [Framework](#))
- SIR40316 Certificate IV in Retail Management to be kept on the NSW skills List (restrict Smart and Skilled eligibility to people with work experience).

The performance of these qualifications will continue to be monitored.

Training Services NSW website is moving

The Training Services NSW website is moving to nsw.gov.au as part of the NSW Government's OneCX program to create a unified and customer-centric experience of its websites. The OneCX program is making it easier for customers to find or access information they need on workplace training opportunities, with the NSW Department of Customer Service office as the one place to get information. Training Services NSW is currently migrating to a [VET section of nsw.gov.au](#) as part of this process.

The website content for training providers and employers should soon be available in a format that is easier to find, read and understand. All information for students is live on the [Skills NSW](#) section of the NSW Department of Education website.

To ensure a smooth transition, links to TSNSW pages will automatically redirect to the new content on nsw.gov.au and [Skills NSW](#).

Training Awards season

June is the start of the Regional Training Awards Presentation season. [Click here](#) to see the full calendar of events and what's on in your region starting with Western NSW and Riverina on 9 June. The Southern & South Western Sydney and Western Sydney and Blue Mountains training awards will be presented in one big awards event on 24 June to recognise regional finalists and announce the winners for both regions.

The NSW training awards are held annually by the Department of Education to recognise outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector. These awards honour and reward the achievements of students as well as trainers and teachers across seven categories:

- Apprentice of the Year
- Trainee of the Year

- Vocational Student of the Year
- School Based Apprentice/ Trainee of the Year
- VET in Schools Student of the Year
- Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year
- VET Teacher/ Trainer Student of the Year

Other reports and updates

VET in Schools Forum

The Australian College of Educators, the Teachers' Guild of NSW and MWLP have combined forces to again host the VET in Schools Forum on Friday 1 July 2022 at Southern Cross Catholic College in Burwood. If you would like to learn more about VET in schools, engage with VET educators and hear from leaders in the field, you can click here for more information and to [book your ticket](#).

Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements

Last opportunity to sign up a new apprentice or trainee before the Commonwealths Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy ends on 30 June 2022. Employers can sign up a new apprentice or trainee and have 50% of their wages paid for 12 months up to \$7000 per quarter. [Click here](#) for more information.

AATIS

The Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Service (AATIS) is funded by the Australian Government which announced in the March budget, a reduction in funding for the delivery of AATIS services. Unless there is a change to the budget allocation, AATIS will cease operation on 31 December 2022. The Department of Education, Skills and Employment through the National Career Institute will oversee a transition of elements of AATIS. AATIS provides the latest updates to apprenticeship and traineeship qualifications, and provides Australian Apprenticeships Summary Statistics reports. [Click here](#) to view the full report for the year to September 2021.

NCVER

NCVER and VOCEDplus have released the latest *"What if"* paper to explore what we can do to eliminate the stigma of VET. The paper reflects on "The view of VET by students and their families, school staff and faculty, career advisors, employers and the broader public is embedded in a range of perceptions. Image, awareness, quality, and relevance are four major and interrelated aspects of these perceptions, some of which are negative and misguided, creating a stigma associated with choosing a VET pathway." The paper provides a broad overview of the perceptions and some of the actions being taken to address them. It makes for very thorough and interesting reading and if you would like to read the report in full, [click here](#).

Labour Market Information Portal

The Labour Market Information Portal (LMIP) website will be decommissioned in one month. The National Skills Commission (NSC) has moved all the latest data and content available from LMIP to the new [Labour Market Insights](#) (LMI) website and the refreshed [NSC website](#). The LMI provides employment insights across groups, industries, occupations and regions. It includes up to date data on the general workforce, employment rate, participation rate, unemployment rate and youth unemployment rate. The NSC website provides reports on the future workforce, employment projections and Australian Skills Classifications.

Visitor Economy News

The May issue of the Visitor Economy News reported that despite a challenging operating environment, the number of businesses in the Australia's visitor economy grew by 2.9 in 2020-21. Tourism Research Australia reported that as at June 2021 there were 334,532 tourism businesses in Australia, one in seven business (14%) in Australia was tourism-related. During the 2021-21 period there was an increase in small and micro businesses as well as increases in retail operators (especially online), cafes, restaurant and take-away businesses. This was most likely due to government support packages allowing businesses to operate on reduced turnover. The report notes that some tourism businesses lost workers and other stopped operation altogether.

Also published in May was Tourism Research Australia's National Visitor Survey Monthly Snapshot for Domestic Tourism in February 2022. The key results show that overnight spend increased 11% on February 2020 at \$5.2billion, overnight trips were down 6% to 7.1million and nights spent n trip were up 2%. Most notably spending was up 26% in NSW to \$357million though this could be a reflection of growth following the bushfires impacting 2020. [Click here](#) to view the full report.

National Skills Week

A calendar reminder that National Skills Week will be held from Monday 22nd August- Sunday 28th August 2022. Put it in your calendar and [click here](#) to subscribe to updates. National Skills Week is committed to improving and promoting Vocational Education and Training in Australia and to change peoples' perceptions of VET. It's everyone responsibility to be part of the solution and spread the message of the range of diversity and opportunities for those who choose a VET pathway to build a successful career through VET.

The Big Move

From July 1, SkillsIQ will be moving to its new premises at Suite 2.01, Level 2, 117 York St Sydney.

Sarah Rosen
SkillsIQ NSW ITAB

CAPABLE PEOPLE
MAKE CLEVER BUSINESS


A Suite 2.01 / Level 2, 117 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000
E enquiries@skillsiq.com.au
T +61 2 9392 8100
W skillsiq.com.au

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SkillsIQ would like to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and sea throughout Australia and extend that respect to Elders past and present. SkillsIQ also recognises those whose ongoing effort to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will leave a lasting legacy for future Elders and leaders.



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