



REPORT



CCLLEN
CAMPASPE COHUNA
LOCAL LEARNING & EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

2022

2022



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Just when we thought the pandemic was over and life was going back to normal; along came the floods. However, the CCLLEN were able to adapt, modify and display extreme resilience.

It was a credit to Anne and the team, who kept persevering and coming

up with innovative ways to best support the needs of young people, whilst navigating the ever-changing educational and work landscape. On behalf of the entire community, I thank and congratulate you all on another successful year.

2022 marked the final year of Anne's time as Executive Officer and we were able to give her a suitable send off. We then started the task of filling Anne's very large shoes. Thankfully, Jane applied and was the successful applicant for the new EO position. We look forward to seeing where Jane's direction takes the CCLLEN over the coming years.

Towards the end of 2021 we were approached by Lead On to accept the co-ordination of the L2P program. This sat beautifully with our purpose and Anne quickly set to instigating the changeover. One year in and we have been able to consolidate the program and start to increase the mentors and active participants. This is an exciting program that will be a great resource for young people across the region.

Sadly, the VET awards were impacted by the floods and were postponed until 2023. They were held recently in front of a packed audience at the Moama Bowling Club. I congratulate all the successful students, as well as all of those nominated.

I want to also acknowledge Jacq for her ability to navigate the tricky year and continue to support structured workplace learning and the culinary challenge. These are two major components of the CCLLEN work and Jacq has been able to thrive during very challenging times.

The new contract and funding agreement with DET was completed in late 2022. Through excellent management we continued to be financially stable. This was due to outstanding leadership and astute decision making.

A special mention to our staff members Dave Callanan, Graeme Hodgens, Nikki Harris and Jane Reid. Dave started co-ordinating the L2P project before handing the reins to Graeme. Both Dave and Graeme have grown the L2P program since its move to the LLEN. Nikki fitted in quickly and has demonstrated enormous talents in a range of areas. Nikki provided support across a myriad of projects. Jane was our Youth Partnerships leader and supported numerous projects and schools.

I congratulate Jane on her appointment as EO and wish her all the best. I look forward to supporting Jane and being a part of a strong and progressive LLEN team.

In closing, I would like to thank the board and congratulate all the CCLLEN staff members for their amazing work supporting young people. I admired how resilient you all were as challenges kept arising. It was obvious that the core objective to improve participation, engagement and attainment and transition outcomes for young people, were at the heart of every decision.

Paul Marshall
Chairperson



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

2022 was a big year, with the return of face to face delivery of many of our usual activities, and the beginning of new work.

Schools were keen to access events and tours to help students connect and engage outside the school

boundaries. This saw good numbers attending events such as Careers Expos and the Food & Fibre Careers Day. Work placements resumed, and the Murray River Culinary Challenge was back.

We partnered with Campaspe Shire Council on running a Youth Expo for Echuca Moama using FReeZA and Youth Fest Funding. Students thoroughly enjoyed the Expo and were able to interact with a wide variety of youth services and organisations.

The Department of Education has been holding School Industry Roundtables across Victoria, and in August 2022 it was our turn. We put together a working group with the Committee 4 Echuca Moama, Campaspe Shire Council and the Industry Training Hub to plan the Roundtable. The event was very well attended and created a list of actions. Some of those actions will be undertaken by CCLLEN as they align with our objectives.

Campaspe Youth Partnerships continues to provide a range of engagement programs and activities to schools in collaboration with a number of service providers. We are seeking philanthropic funds to enable the Partnerships to continue to grow and thrive.

We delivered a full year of the L2P Program. The handover to us from Lead On Echuca Moama commenced in November 2021 under a subcontracting arrangement. Lead On generously gave CCLLEN the two L2P vehicles. The

Department of Transport has been very helpful in the process and by February offered us a funding agreement to deliver the Program until mid 2023.

The Department of Education began a consultation process with all the LLENs statewide to develop our next contract. This was a series of workshops and meetings to define and refine our role. The new contract was finalised in October and is titled "School to Work". The three year contract has targets for school-industry engagement activities including work experience, work placement, industry tours and work readiness.

We intended to hold a number of events in October and November but the floods prevented that. Judging for the VET Awards was also affected, so that will now be held early in 2023.

I chose to end my time at CCLLEN at the end of 2022. I have been Executive Officer for twelve and a half years. The LLEN is well placed to continue its work and to expand. Jane Reid will be an excellent Executive Officer who will bring fresh ideas and momentum to CCLLEN.

My thanks to the CCLLEN Board for giving me the opportunity back in 2010, and for supporting me in the role. Thanks to the staff of CCLLEN for so enthusiastically and diligently undertaking all the tasks and activities. Thanks to the community for supporting young people. We have a bright future with the young people coming into the workforce – please help them to be their best.

Anne Trickey
Outgoing Executive Officer

20 YEARS OF CCLLEN

The inaugural meeting of CCLLEN was held in March 2002.

In the 20 years since then the organisation has had

- 3 Executive Officers
- 24 plus staff
- 74 board members
- 3 Chairpersons

Peter Williams is our elder statesman, having been on the board since the beginning, and served 9 years as Chair.

Kerrie Raglus was on the board for 17 years, 10 as Chair.

Paul Marshall is the newcomer, with 4 years on the board, 1 as Chair.

Long serving board members are

- Melva Johnson, 15 years
- Emma Brentnall, 13 years
- Trish Martin, 12 years
- Trish Bradley, 11 years

Long serving staff are

- Anne Trickey with almost 12 years
- Jacq Campbell with 11 years

Long term projects are

- **Murray River Culinary Challenge** – since 2011 (prior to that it was run by another organisation)
- **VET Awards** – since 2010
- **School Friendly Businesses** – since 2011
- **Partnership with Beacon** – since 2002, with CCLLEN staffing the position since 2014
- **Youth Partnerships** – since 2012. Impressive, given that it was an initiative that was originally funded for 18 months



- **Kyabram Industry Day** – since 2010, in various formats
- **Youth Expo** – since 2013
- **Student Log Books** – since 2011
- **Health Careers Events** – since 2014

Others have come and gone

- **City Kids Experiencing Country Life** – 2012 to 2016
- **Upload Your Future**, 2012 to 2013, although we have run our own self-funded version of this from 2014 to 2019
- **Let's Read**, 2014 to 2015
- **Youth Research**, in 2015 and 2019
- **School Leavers' Handbook**
- **Youth Service Directory**

We started this year with a new addition in the L2P Learner Driver program.

The future looks promising with the Department of Education seeing a role for LLENs in the implementation of the Senior Secondary Pathways Reform and continuing work in school and industry engagement.

WHAT IS THE CCLLEN?

The CCLLEN is a grouping of organisations and individuals interested and involved in the wellbeing, education, training and employment of young people.

Our core objective is to improve participation, engagement and attainment and transition outcomes for young people. There are 31 LLENs across Victoria. The CCLLEN's geographic boundary is inclusive of the Shire of Campaspe and Cohuna in the Gannawarra Shire.

The CCLLEN's stakeholder group encompasses education and training providers, business and industry, community organisations, and parents and families. The CCLLEN undertakes the brokering of partnerships with these stakeholders to assist with the successful transitioning of our young people through education and training into employment.

The CCLLEN holds funding agreements or Memorandums of Understanding for four major programs

The **Local Learning and Employment Network Partnership Brokerage Funding** is to develop partnerships which result in an increase in the number and range of school-employer engagement activities including:

- Structured workplace learning, work experience and school community work
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships
- Guest speakers and presenters from industry
- Workplace visits and industry tours
- Mock interviews and work-readiness preparation.



Due to COVID-19 the funding agreement was varied to allow for additional activities to support mandatory work placement, VET delivery, virtual school-employer engagement, partnership brokerage and information distribution.

The **Echuca Moama Beacon Foundation** operates a careers program for Echuca College, Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School, Moama Anglican Grammar, St Joseph's College, and River City Christian College, and has contracted CCLLEN to deliver key elements of the program.

Campaspe Youth Partnerships is a partnership of 23 organisations including schools, community organisations and local government. Funding comes from various sources and is used across the schools for a number of engagement programs.

The **L2P Program** assists eligible young Victorian learner drivers to gain driving experience alongside a trained volunteer mentor.

2022 COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Category 1	Schools Paul Marshall – Echuca Specialist School Louise Mellington – Kyabram P-12 College Anne Marie Cairns – St Joseph's College Melissa Gould – Rochester Secondary College	4 Positions
Category 2	TAFE Institutes or Universities with TAFE sectors	1 Position
Category 3	Adult Community Education Organisations	1 Position
Category 4	Other education and training organisations including private registered training organisations, universities and group training companies Mahir Ozdilek - MEGT	1 Position
Category 5	Trade Unions	1 Position
Category 6	Employers/Peak employer organisations/Regional employer organisations and employment agencies Lynda Magill – Sarina Russo Apprenticeships	4 Positions
Category 7	Local Governments Jess Ibbeson - Campaspe Shire Council	2 Positions
Category 8	Other community agencies and organisations, Commonwealth and State Government departments, School Focussed Youth Service, Adult, Community and Further Education Regional Councils, Regional Youth Councils, parent organisations etc Emma Brentnall – Bendigo Health	2 Positions
Category 9	Koorie organisations, Peak Koorie agencies and Regional Koorie organisations	1 Position
Category 10	Community Members Darryl Brown	1 Position
Category 11	Nominated by the Committee who shall be a Community Member or a person associated with an Organisational Member	2 Positions

OUR PEOPLE



Anne Trickey
Executive Officer

Anne has worked with local schools through a variety of Australian Government funded programs since 2002, and with the CCLLEN since 2010. She has qualifications in Career Development, Partnering Practice, Governance, and Training and Assessment. Anne farewells CCLLEN at the end of 2022, and steps into a well-earned retirement.

Jane Reid

Project Officer | Executive Officer

Jane commenced with CCLLEN in July 2019. Jane has worked in employment services, public relations and as a trainer and assessor, joining CCLLEN as the coordinator for the Beacon Real Futures Program and Campaspe Youth Partnerships. In December 2022, Jane was appointed to the role of Executive Officer.



Jacq Campbell
Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator

Jacq has a strong background in hospitality, event management and training. Jacq commenced with CCLLEN in 2011 working on the VET in Schools Excellence Awards and the Murray River Culinary Challenge. In 2014 Jacq became a full-time employee taking on the Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator role.

Nikki Harris

Project Support Officer

Nikki commenced at CCLLEN in January 2022 moving to the region from Melbourne. With her project administration experience, Nikki provides administrative support across all projects including the L2P and Beacon programs.



Dave Callanan
L2P Coordinator

Dave joined us on 19 January and is heading up the L2P program. With his excellent communication and relationship skills, he will liaise with learner drivers and match them with a suitable mentor to assist them to gain the necessary hours required for their licence.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Our Vision Statement

All young people are supported to engage with education to reach their full potential and become successful contributors to their community.

Our Mission Statement

We facilitate communication and partnerships between education providers, businesses, community organisations and individuals to assist young people to achieve their best.

This enables us to provide access to opportunities for young people which broaden their experiences, expand their horizons and support their wellbeing.

Our Objectives

- Connect with our stakeholders
- Develop partnerships
- Be inclusive
- Communicate clearly
- Share research and data
- Encourage participation
- Support wellbeing



SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO ENGAGE WITH INDUSTRY

494



Students have participated in Employability Skills and Interview Preparation workshops in 2022 at schools across the Campaspe Cohuna Region.

342



School Friendly Businesses in the Campaspe Cohuna region, promoting and enhancing the links between schools, parents and the business community.

498



Students (approximately) attended LLEN supported careers events in 2022, either in person or on line.

423



Students participated in mock interviews in 2022, either in person or on line. Mock interviews are conducted by local business people to give students an idea of what a real job interview is like.

36



Students were finalists in the VET in Schools Excellence Awards in 2022. Students are nominated by their teachers and trainers and go through a selection and interview process to become finalists.

59



Careers videos featuring local people and businesses providing a virtual careers expo experience for all secondary schools.

92



New Structured Workplace Learning opportunities were advertised on the portal during 2022, in addition to previously listed opportunities.

28



Careers events were organised by CCLLEN, and held either face to face or online.

PROGRESS TOWARDS LLEN TARGETS

2022 was the final year of a contract with the Department of Education and Training. There are five Key Performance Indicators for this contract. The Department varied this contract to allow for additional activities, due to the impacts of COVID-19.

KPI 1. Increase the number of Work Experience opportunities available on the SWL Statewide Portal.

Target: No Target

KPI 2. Increase the number of Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) opportunities consumed on the SWL Statewide Portal

Target: 134 opportunities consumed

Achievement: 70

Some students were reluctant to go out on placements this year. Some employers lacked capacity to host, being short staffed. Floods disrupted placements in Term 4. We are still trying to get schools to use the portal to consume placements, our SWL coordinator demonstrates the portal to VET classes, and runs work readiness sessions in all schools to help students prepare for placements.

KPI 3. Support access to quality School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs)

Target: 1 opportunity consumed on the SWL portal

Achievement: 0

We have a good relationship with the local Head Start coordinator and leave SBATs to her. We have listed an SBAT opportunity on the portal but have not yet sourced the right candidate.

KPI 4. Increase participation in school-employer engagement activities

Target: 6 activities

Achievement: 28 activities

We have run a wide range of events and activities, from careers expos, to industry specific tours, to a School Industry Roundtable. All schools have

been offered multiple events and all schools have attended at least one. Four events planned for Oct & Nov were cancelled due to the floods.

KPI 5. Improve student experience by acting on feedback from school-employer engagement activities

Target: Report feedback that has been acted on, and detail the planned or actual mitigation strategies

Achievement: The Kyabram Industry Day is a careers expo. Feedback from teachers and presenters at the Expo means that next year we will run the event in the morning, concluding at lunch time. Feedback from industry tours confirms that providing morning tea, water, lunch and relevant items in a showbag enhance the events and should continue. We provide information to industry presenters prior to events to help them prepare interesting and hands on activities for students to help them engage effectively.



KPI 6. LLEN Partners are informed, supported and prepared for the Senior Secondary Pathway Reforms in 2022

Achievement: We played a key role in communicating with schools about the development of VET Clusters and brought them together for planning meetings. In particular we brought in the Catholic and Independent schools. At DET request we met with Moama Anglican Grammar and invited them into the planning process, which they were keen to do. We also shared information and links to webinars.

KPI 7. LLEN activity and DET activity is aligned and mutually supportive

Achievement: We worked closely with the JSPM on planning and running a School Industry Roundtable in August. We meet regularly in person and online, and also communicate by phone and email. We also meet regularly online with the JSPM and other LLENs in the DET Area.

Other activities included in the variation

Partnership Brokerage and Information Distribution:

-  **CCLLEN** undertook a range of activities in this area. A summary is below, and more detailed information on several activities appears in this Annual Report.
-  **CCLLEN** is the lead in Campaspe Youth Partnerships. All secondary schools in Campaspe are members along with Campaspe Shire Council, Victoria Police, Anglicare Victoria, and other service agencies. Together the Partnership provides programs to re-engage students in school, support wellbeing and promote employability skills such as teamwork, problem solving and communication.
-  **CCLLEN** worked with local schools and the Jobs, Skills and Pathways Manager (JSPM) on planning for and running a School Industry Roundtable in Echuca. This built on earlier work with industry such as Voice of Our Youth (2019) and How Work Works (2020).
-  **CCLLEN** is working with 3 other LLENs on Youth Take Overs which will provide industry relevant experience for young interns and bridge the communication gap between employers and young people.
-  **CCLLEN** engagement with host employers and School Friendly Businesses provides us with up to date information on employment needs and readiness to engage with schools. This information is then shared with schools and DET Area staff.
-  **CCLLEN** met with school principals and leadership to discuss Senior Secondary Pathways reforms and implications for our communities. Clustering and sharing are being discussed positively and CCLLEN is offering support.

Other Comments

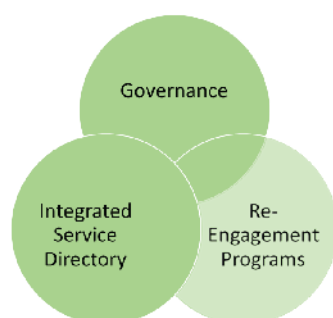
2022 got off to a hesitant start. Schools wanted to settle in to a routine before venturing out to events and tours. By Term 2 they were keen to have students experience activities and broaden their view. We attempted to meet this need in a variety of ways. The floods impacted us from mid-October, and continue to affect us now. Most schools (Rochester, Echuca & Kyabram) were closed in October, either due to direct impacts on the schools, or impacts on staff, students and roads. We postponed judging interviews for our VET Awards and will now hold them in February. The event itself has been postponed from November.

CAMPASPE YOUTH PARTNERSHIPS



Working collaboratively to support vulnerable young people aged 10-18 years to:

- Improve engagement with education and training leading to the completion of Year 12 or equivalent.
- Reduce escalation of problems for individual young people.



VALUES

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Resilience
- Community
- Care

Full MoU Members

- Anglicare Victoria
- Bendigo TAFE
- Campaspe Cohuna LLEN
- Campaspe Shire Council
- Department of Education & Training
- Department of Human Services: Centrelink
- Echuca College
- Echuca Neighbourhood House
- Echuca Regional Health
- Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School
- Kyabram Community & Learning Centre
- Kyabram P-12 College
- River City Christian College
- Rochester Secondary College
- Rushworth P-12 College
- Save the Children - Hands on Learning Program
- St Augustine's College
- St Joseph's College

Affiliate Members

- Community Living and Respite Services
- Kyabram District Health Services
- School Focused Youth Services
- Victoria Police

Vision Statement

All young people have real access to learning opportunities, integrated services and community inclusion.

Mission Statement

Partnering to facilitate, the provision of an effective accessible and integrated service delivery and responsive learning opportunities for vulnerable young people.

Integrated Service Directory

The Continuum of Need is an online framework resource on services available in Campaspe. At risk students can be mapped to develop a shared support plan with a holistic approach.

Re-engagement Programs

A range of programs are made available to our schools to cater for different students' interests and abilities, to help them get back on track with their education. These programs aim for the disengaged young people to re-engage with their learning, improve social, personal skills and connect with the school and wider community.

Junior Park Rangers

A primary based program which aims to encourage engagement, resilience and confidence, as an early intervention strategy for disengagement. Through project-based learning, students learn responsibility, teamwork, environmental sustainability and how to care for animals.

MATES

A youth mentoring program which matches a young person (Mentee) with a volunteer (Mentor) from the local community. They meet weekly during school terms at the school, which develops a structured and trusting relationship. Mentors encourage and reinforce positive behaviour, enhance self-confidence and self-worth.

I CAN Network

A combined school secondary mentoring program provides fortnightly group mentoring to students on the Autism Spectrum. It focuses on teamwork, personal strengths, communication, managing stress and building an 'I CAN' attitude. The Imagination Club is a primary based program for students who are Autistic, or who have learning differences or experience social anxiety. It aims to develop self-acceptance, belonging, optimism and confidence. Programs are facilitated by an I CAN Network Leader and Mentor, at least one of whom is on the Autism Spectrum.

Murray Life Adventures

6-week program with one day a week of outdoorsy and challenging type activities with a focus on safety, fun and learning with a slow build on the concepts of team building and leadership with the main aim to assist to re-engage the students to education and teamwork in a fun and outdoors setting.

Hands On Learning

Hands on Learning (HoL) is an innovative education program that caters to the different ways young people learn, helping students build confidence, engage and achieve at school. Students thrive developing the creativity, self-discipline and interpersonal skills vital for the 21st Century workforce. Students attend one day a week fostering teamwork and leadership. Students and artisan-teachers share meals and work together on meaningful projects that benefit the school and local community.



Education and Training



Echuca Regional Health

CAMPASPE YOUTH PARTNERSHIPS 2022

22



Organisations are members of Campaspe Youth Partnerships.

13



Students participated in the MATES Mentoring Program with a mentor from the community.

8

Schools involved in Campaspe Youth Partnerships.



36

Students participated in an animal based programs at Billabong Ranch and Kyabram Fauna Park.



118



Young people participated in Campaspe Youth Partnerships programs over the year.

45



Students participated in the Hands on Learning program that caters to the different ways young people learn, helping students build confidence, engage and achieve at school.

21



Students participated in Project Ignition to increase in-school engagement, self-awareness and careers aspirations.

14



Students engaged in Murray Life Adventures , a program based on outdoorsy and challenging type activities with a focus on safety, fun and learning to assist to re-engage the students to education and teamwork in a fun outdoor setting.

CAMPASPE YOUTH PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout the course of 2022, 118 young people engaged with at least one of the suite of programs supported by Campaspe Youth Partnerships.

All partners continued their involvement and commitment to supporting the Partnerships and attending meetings. The Partnerships has a sound track record of collaboration and sharing. Schools are willing to work together, across sectors, on a variety of projects, both within and beyond the Partnerships projects. Other organisations seek to work with the Partnerships as an effective way to reach young people across the shire. The Partnerships is a key conduit for new providers and staff to connect to decision makers. The Vic Health Partnership Tool is used regularly to measure the strength of the Partnerships. Scores across all domains remained consistently high in 2022.

Through the Partnerships young people have access to a range of engagement programs that can inspire and support them, while improving teamwork, problem solving and communication skills. Some programs are delivered in school and some are external.

During 2022 Hands on Learning continued to grow, with participating schools reporting improved

engagement and attendance from students. Students build, make or repair items for others, while working on their own focus plans for personal development and improvement.

Murray Life Adventures provides challenging activities in an outdoor environment beside the Murray River. Two schools ran programs, working on communication, problem solving, peer relationships and teamwork.

The Ignition pilot program was conducted at Rochester Secondary College, with River City Christian College also running the program in the first half of the year.

I CAN programs were delivered at Echuca College, St Joseph's College, an interschool program with River City Christian College and Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School, an inter-school year 7 transition program and both a Secondary program and Imagination Club at Kyabram P-12 College.

MATES Mentoring started off slowly, with a total of 13 young people matched with a mentor from their community in 2022.



STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING PORTAL



Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENs) across Victoria are funded to increase access to appropriate SWL placements for students undertaking VET as part of their senior secondary certificate.

Structured Workplace Learning provides students with the opportunity to integrate practical on-the-job experience and learnings in industry with nationally recognised VET. This is undertaken as part of either the VCE or the VCAL, VCE Industry and Enterprise or VCAL units. It provides enhanced skill development, practical application of industry knowledge, assessment of units of competency, achievement of some learning outcomes for VCE studies or VCAL units and enhanced employment opportunities.

One of the principles of Quality SWL is that it "is of sufficient duration and depth to enable students to acquire a reasonable understanding

of the enterprise/industry to be able to demonstrate competence according to industry standards".

The State Government, with the assistance of the LLENs, has developed a Statewide Portal for listing placement opportunities across all vocations. The portal is available for all schools, students, parents and employers to use.

Schools can consume placements off the portal which will then generate all the correct forms. Businesses can manage student placements through the portal and readily align them with capacity to host students in the workplace.

The screenshot shows the SWL Statewide Portal website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HOME, SEARCH, GUIDES, VIDEOS, LLENs, and CONTACT US. The main header features the 'SCHOOL EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT' logo and the 'SWL Structured Workplace Learning' logo. Below this, a large banner image shows two students wearing blue hard hats. Overlaid on the left side of the banner is a dark blue box with the text 'SWL Statewide Portal' and 'The Portal helps school students find work placements and promotes opportunities for them to learn more about the world of work.' Below this text is a button that says 'Start Search Now'. Below the banner, there is a section titled 'Find current work placements and opportunities offered by employers across Victoria'. This section includes a paragraph: 'There are many ways that secondary school students can connect to the world of work. Click on Start Search Now or learn more using the links below.' To the right of this text are two statistics: '4,288 Positions Available' and '23,055 Positions Used'. Below these statistics is another 'Start Search Now' button. At the bottom of the page, there are three columns of content, each with a small image and a title: 'For Students & Parents' (with the subtext 'Get real exposure to the world of work and'), 'For Schools & Teachers' (with the subtext 'Building student awareness of real'), and 'For Host Employers' (with the subtext 'Looking for employees of the future? Want').

KYABRAM INDUSTRY DAY 2022

One hundred and fifty Year 9 students from both Kyabram schools swarmed into St Augustine's Brigidine Centre to hear personal stories of career journeys from 19 workshop presentations. Local industries and services gathered together to present the workshops to students from St Augustine's College and Kyabram P-12 College.

The day started with a presentation on safety in the workplace to better prepare students for entering the workplace and help them gain an understanding of workplace safety. This is a really important topic for young entry level employees.

Students had previously picked their top four career choices so proceeded to rotate through their chosen presentations. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and enjoyed some great interactive moments in a number of the workshops.

The paramedics team were highly praised for their helpful information, many students expressing their thanks, Police and Defence Force were also popular choices. Local businesses such as Brady Electrical and Dawes & Vary Riordan lawyers both had students realising there was local support in their career choices. Kyabram Health had a number of modalities to present and some real hands on nursing techniques to learn while Shepparton Arts Museum, Minerals Victoria and Kyabram Fauna Park offered insights into different careers. Shine Bright showcasing early childhood learning had a fun, interactive site for students to really get the feel of playing with children.

A panel of local business people finished off the day with a Q & A session about their personal career journeys, hints and tips.

Feedback from the students included the comments "I learnt how to get into different

careers", "I learnt a lot of helpful things and now have a better idea of what to do", "That there are multiple ways of getting info for your field of choice" and "There are many different ways to get into whichever career you want to work in."

A student from each college won a prize for filling in the feedback survey.

Kyabram Bakery provided a great morning tea bag for each student and the local Subway provided a delicious wrapped lunch with the CCLLEN providing fresh fruit.



2022 VET IN SCHOOLS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CAMPASPE COHUNA LLEN STUDENT OF THE YEAR



CHRISTIAN CORSO



FINALISTS IN THE CAMPASPE COHUNA LLEN VET IN SCHOOLS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2022

Allied Health

Erin Moore
Madison Barnes
Trinity Porter
Annie Byrne

Animal Studies

Ayden Shepherd

Building and Construction

Christian Corso

Community Service

Kaylee Barker
Maddison Chilver
Hayley Franklin

Education Support

Meg Brennan
Macey Crilly
Kate-Lyn
Godden-Cannard

Engineering

Jonathan McAsey
Jacob Haines
James Graham
Thomas Young

Kitchen Operations

Kate Durrant
Dylan Jenkins

Music

Autumn Stacey
Johannah Grundy
James Gadsden

Primary Industries

Lucas Jettner
Maggie Thomson
Lexie Heinrich

Public Safety

Olivia McInnes

Retail Cosmetics

Keeley Closter

Sport and Recreation

Jorja Avers

Tourism Travel and Events

Nicholas Ebsworth
Penelope Cowin
Brodie Jardine

VCAL

Macie Free
Thomas Jeffreys
Payton Hearn
Georgia Prince
Cassidy Dupuy
Jordan Meager

Welcome to the 2022 VET Awards !

We have managed to salvage the Awards and all who sail with her and got them up and running on February 28 at the Moama Bowling Club.

We were very happy to be able to meet with our students face to face and have them enjoy the interview/judging process that was held at Bendigo TAFE Echuca campus.

Around 450 secondary school students are enrolled in VET subjects and School Based Apprenticeships in our region this year.

Over 60 students were nominated for the VET Awards by their VET teachers and

trainers with a short list allowing 44 students to be interviewed.

Brendon Hawken and Michael Pratt have generously given their time and passion to the VET Awards judging process for many years. This year the dynamic duo was joined by Andrea Martinez from the Campaspe Shire who brought a high energy and her years of experience in HR.

The three judges enjoyed the experience and had high praise for the finalists, acknowledging that the submissions for nomination were of a high calibre.

What is VET in Schools?

Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VET in Schools) allows secondary school students to study a particular job or vocation and gain industry qualifications. A VET subject includes theory and practical

components. Students undertaking a VET subject may be planning a career in that industry, or seeking a contrast to their academic subjects, or wanting to develop their work related skills.

What is Structured Workplace Learning?

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) is an important component of a VET subject. Students are hosted by employers to undertake a short term hands on placement. On-the-job experience helps them to develop skills and competencies related to

their subject. Jacq Campbell, Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator with Campaspe Cohuna LLEN, says that "a work placement assists students to develop a realistic understanding of the world of work and to gain employability skills."

Local Portal website for Structured Work Placements and Work Experience

The Victorian Department of Education and Training provides an online portal to help students find host employers for work placements. Students and schools can use the portal to look for work placement

opportunities with local businesses. Campaspe Cohuna LLEN manages the portal for this region. Jacq Campbell invited businesses to contact her to be included.

Go to www.workplacements.education.vic.gov.au or contact Jacq with any queries



Australian School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeships (SBAT) are the same as normal apprenticeships and traineeships except that they are completed part time whilst the young person continues their schooling, rather than being done full time. SBATs are available in a wide variety of industries and involve a contract of training and paid employment. Typically, a student is employed in the workplace one day per week, and attends school the other four days.

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships are a 'win win' situation for both the student and the employer. Students gain a nationally recognised qualification and valuable experience in the workplace. Employers can contribute to the career development of a young person, and gain an extra pair of hands in a very cost effective manner.

On completion of the SBAT an employer may offer full time employment to a young person who has already proved their value.

School Friendly Business

Campaspe Cohuna LLEN recognises businesses as being School Friendly for the support they give to young people in their journey through school and into further education and employment.

Host employers and Award sponsors are demonstrating two ways of being School Friendly.

We thank both hosts and sponsors for their contribution to local young people.

2022 VET IN SCHOOLS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CAMPASPE COHUNA LLEN VET IN SCHOOLS EXCELLENCE AWARDS WINNERS 2022

CCLLEN ALLIED HEALTH AWARD WINNER



**ANNIE
BYRNE**



CCLLEN ANIMAL STUDIES AWARD WINNER



**AYDEN
SHEPHERD**



CVGT BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION AWARD WINNER



**CHRISTIAN
CORSO**



COMMUNITY LIVING & RESPITE SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD WINNER



**MADDISON
CHILVER**



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE EDUCATION SUPPORT AWARD WINNER



**KATE-LYN
GODDEN-
CANNARD**



MOAMA BOWLING CLUB KITCHEN OPERATIONS AWARD WINNER



**DYLAN
JENKINS**



BENDIGO TAFE PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AWARD WINNER



**LUCAS
JETTNER**



PETER WALSH PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD WINNER



**OLIVIA
MCINNES**



PRICELINE RETAIL COSMETICS AWARD WINNER



**KEELEY
CLOSTER**



RIVERINE HERALD SPORTS & RECREATION AWARD WINNER



**JORJA
AVERS**



ECHUCA MOAMA REGIONAL TOURISM TOURISM TRAVEL & EVENTS AWARD WINNER



**NICHOLAS
EBSWORTH**



MEGT VCAL AWARD WINNER



**MACIE
FREE**



SARINA RUSSO ENGINEERING AWARD WINNERS



JONATHAN MCASEY



JAMES GRAHAM



WINTER BLUES MUSIC AWARD WINNERS



JOHANNAH GRUNDY



JAMES GADSDEN



SHEPPARTON CAREERS DAY 2022

We were all excited to hop on a bus and travel to Shepparton to explore all the new career opportunities that awaited us.

It seems like forever since we have been able to participate in something like this, and not have to be all masked up. Since COVID-19 hit, we haven't been able to get out and visit other places, except on a Zoom call!

Us VCAL students at Echuca College all have different interests and hobbies, so it was excellent to see so many different career stalls. Some were jobs we had never thought of.

We liked that you could try out many of the jobs for yourself, for example, bricklaying, ride in a police car... we even got to try taking blood from a (fake) patients arm!

There was so much help and advice available and everyone was so friendly.

Echuca College VCAL team



PHYSICS EXCURSION TO LUNA PARK

On Wednesday 9 March 2022, Year 11 and Year 12 VCE Physics students from Rochester Secondary College travelled down to Luna Park in St Kilda to take part in the annual VicPhysics hands-on learning day.

Students had the opportunity to explore practical examples of concepts covered in the Unit 2 'Motion in one and two dimensions' and Unit 3 'How fast can things go?' sections of the study design.

Students used data logging equipment to collect information about a variety of amusement park rides and will unpack this data to provide context for pendulums, vertical and horizontal circular motion and conical pendulums, energy transfer and conservation and basic motion calculations. Our students may also use this stimulus as a basis for future research in their student designed investigations later in the year.

"When we finally arrived, I was looking around at our group, I could see everyone was just looking



around in awe at the park. Everyone was just amazed at the scale of it, and how the scenic ride was still standing after over 100 years. For me, going to the park was great because it gave me an opportunity to see real life representations of the theoretical physics I have been studying at school, and I couldn't help thinking about the physics involved in each ride. It

was so much fun going on all of the rides, but for me the most fun was the Pharaoh's Curse. There is something fun about hanging upside down in a cage, with only a bar across your legs." Sam Ryan.

The Campaspe Cohuna Local Learning Employment Network (CCLLEN) provided sponsorship towards the costs of the excursion.

INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS



Students across our schools were preparing for their upcoming Mock Interviews.

Students are required to submit a Resume and Application letter in response to a job advertisement and are then interviewed by a local business or community member. Feedback is part of this process and is very valuable.

To better prepare, students participate in a highly interactive 75 minute session that offers tips on resumes and application letter writing. A challenging tower building activity using only spaghetti and marshmallows is a group activity that helps the students put into practice the Employability Skills they had heard about that day including team work and problem solving.

Students pair up to practice questions they may get asked by an interviewer and learn the importance of first impressions.

A workbook has been created for the students with hints, tips and checklists and tasks that will help them reflect on new found skills.

FOOD AND FIBRE CAREERS DAY

Students and schools were keen to get back to face to face careers workshops and events, and they turned up in droves for the Careers Day.



More than 350 students attended from 22 schools! Six schools from our area participated, sending 159 students.

LLEN's, universities, TAFEs, training organisations and industry bodies worked together to organise the Food & Fibre Careers Day at the Dookie Campus of the University of Melbourne in May. Twenty-one different workshops were offered with many filling to capacity during the registration process. Workshops included genetics, sheep, hydroponics, veterinary technology, climate challenges, tractors, technology, dairy, agribusiness, equine, beef, indigenous foods, environmental science, pastures, geo spatial



science, water, bees and viticulture. This provided a wide range of aspects of Food & Fibre production.

Lunch was provided and an ag relay race was held during the break with students competing in teams for prizes, sashes and a trophy for the overall winning school. The race consisted of ag related activities in a relay which was a lot of fun.

Feedback from students showed a large increase in the number now interested in a career in Food & Fibre.

They enjoyed the hands on activities and learning new things. They also appreciated the variety of workshops on offer.

CAMPASPE CAREERS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING NETWORK

The Campaspe Careers Network is a group consisting of dedicated and passionate Careers teachers from all our Regional secondary schools. The Careers teachers' role includes assisting students to find quality work placements for their students across a range of Vocations.

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Network meetings, held twice per term, provide an opportunity for school careers practitioners to share information and resources, promote best practice and connect with other schools, training providers, business and industry.

During 2022 we continued meeting on virtual platforms and when we could, added the hybrid style, some face to face while others joined us across teams.

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The network was also joined each meeting by representatives from the Department of Education and Training, MEGT, Sarina Russo, William Angliss, Hotel School, JMC Academy, Collarts and the Photography College.



SCHOOL TO WORK SUMMIT MEETING

The CCLLEN Chair and Staff attended the School to Work Summit in Melbourne on 31 March. The conference delivery was seamless and all those who attended found the event to be very informative.

The first session set the scene, hearing about the beginnings of LLENs and our role now and into the future. Guest presenters included Howard Kelly who worked with Lyn Kosky to create LLENs and John Firth whose report has led to the new reforms.

In a video recording, Steve Bracks described LLENs as "local community influencers who would drive the implementation of significant reforms". This initially saw LLENs having a role in the introduction of VCAL and now the Senior Secondary Pathways Reforms.

Jeanette Pope presented on How Work Works which was followed by a panel discussion around how to provide students with a pathway from school to work. The last session of the morning was a debate on whether the role of schools is to create the workers of the future. The debate teams included comedians, educators, industry and young people with the 'against' team winning the debate.

Session two provided examples of innovative work including projects to engage younger learners, attract women to work in trades, build partnerships between schools and industries, connect with neurodiverse students, and use virtual reality.

The last session of the day discussed change in schools and then featured five VET Champions, including Jack Trewick from Elmore who was nominated as a VET Champion by CCLLEN.

The evening event to celebrate 20 years of LLENs provided more opportunities to network and share ideas, as well as have some fun!



VET CHAMPIONS

The VET Champions initiative showcases high-achieving Victorians who have risen to success through a vocational education and training (VET) pathway. The Champions are available for schools and LLENs to book to speak at careers events.

The Department of Education asked LLENs to nominate potential Champions for the program.

CCLLEN nominated Kelly Shotton of Foodmach as a VET Champion and she was one of the first to be announced by Education Minister James Merlino. Kelly immediately received requests to speak at events.

CCLLEN also nominated Jack Trewick, farming apprentice at Cramlington Park and he was in the second group of Champions announced.

Kelly and Jack already have experience talking to students for Beacon and CCLLEN, and were filmed for the Careers Video Showcase. Jack is a two-time winner of School Based Apprentice of the Year in our VET Awards of 2017 and 2018.

Both Kelly and Jack are featured on the VET Champions website at <https://www.vic.gov.au/vet-champions>.



ECHUCA COLLEGE WINS MURRAY RIVER CULINARY CHALLENGE

The home team of Kate Durrant and Dylan Jenkins from Echuca College were winners in a tight field.

The coveted Murray River Culinary Challenge trophy, a piece of highly polished red gum sourced from the Koondrook forest, is now residing with the reigning champions at Echuca College.

The Challenge is an industry standard cooking competition for secondary school students enrolled in a Vocational Education and Training (VET) Hospitality Training Package.

The Murray River Culinary Challenge is a three tiered competition. At the school level, students compete individually to vie for a spot in the Regional Final. The two top scoring students from each school are paired and compete as a team in the Regional Final, the top scoring team then progressing to the Grand Final. Menus in each level of the competition become progressively more difficult and are designed for students to be able to demonstrate their skills learnt during their hospitality training.

The Challenge spans four regions and has involved students attending schools from Campaspe, Shepparton, Swan Hill and Wangaratta.

The Regional Cook off between teams from Echuca College, St Joseph's College and a hybrid Rochester/St Joseph's College, resulted in the Echuca College duo of Kate Durrant and Dylan Jenkins becoming the Grand Final team for Campaspe region on Monday 12 September.

It was the first time in the 18 year history of the competition that Echuca College had a team in the Grand Final. Echuca was joined by teams from



Swan Hill College, Nathalia Secondary College and Galen Catholic College who enjoyed a viewing of the kitchens at Echuca College and a dinner at the American Hotel with trainers and judges the night before the competition.

Each student had just 2.5 hours to present three dishes designed to display knife skills and basic methods of cookery. The industry judges were looking for consistency, flavour and were certainly impressed with the creative presentation from the students.

A big thank you to our Industry judges; George Santos - Moama Bowling Club, Rebecca Hart - Boo's Place Café & Provedore, Megan Knapp - The Kitchen Door, Kristofer Bech Howley - Milestone Café & Bistro for their passion and commitment to the hospitality industry and our young people.

Moama Bowling Club has been a long term sponsor of the Murray River Culinary Challenge in the Campaspe region and we thank them for their continued generosity and support.

SCHOOL FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

The CCLLEN aims to help schools and businesses work together. There are many ways businesses can be 'School Friendly'.

We want to recognise those businesses already interacting with schools and encourage more businesses to become involved.

School Friendly Businesses support their communities and can help improve education and transition outcomes for young people in a whole of community approach.

Across the CCLLEN region 342 businesses and 34 schools are involved. School Friendly Businesses participate in mock interviews, careers events, work placements and sponsorship. They also receive School Friendly Business calendars every six months.



YOUTH
TAKE
OVER

YOUTH TAKE OVER

Youth Take Over Loddon Campaspe will create pathways to employment for young people.

Each Take Over involves a group of young people working with a skilled facilitator to deliver a project within a workplace or industry. This is work experience taken to a new level. Young people will have a great story to tell about the skills they developed, the outcome they delivered, and how they worked in a team - the key components needed in a job interview to get the job you want.

Take Overs on offer range from creating an online store, to designing a label for a wine bottle, to creating a social media campaign, to learning how to make coffee, to learning how to start your own small business.

CCLLEN is partnering with three other LLENs on this project, which is funded by Kirkland Lake Gold's Community Partnership Program. Kirkland Lake Gold has recently been renamed Agnico Eagle and owns the Fosterville Gold Mine.

YOUTH EXPO

Local students were presented with a world of opportunity at the Echuca Moama Youth Expo, held at the Echuca Stadium.

Years 7 to 10 students from Echuca College, Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School, Moama Anglican Grammar, River City Christian College and St Joseph's College attended the eye-opening expo that displayed more than 35 stalls.

A wide range of social groups, sporting clubs, businesses, organisations and health services were on exhibit.

The expo was a collaboration between CCLLEN, Campaspe Shire Council and participating schools using FReeZA and Youth Fest funding from the Victorian government.

The expo provided a space for local organisations, community groups and clubs to present opportunities for young people to get involved in their community or to become part of a supportive group environment. Hobbies and interests such as soccer, theatre and martial arts were exhibited, as were volunteer groups such as the fire brigade, op shop and library.

The students participated in the creation of this event, putting forward ideas for the exhibits and other activities.

The expo aims to connect young people to sports, hobbies, activities, clubs and services available to them locally.



L2P LEARNER DRIVER PROGRAM

For more than 11 years, the Campaspe L2P Mentor Driver Program has assisted hundreds of young people obtain enough learner driver hours to apply to gain their probationary license.

The TAC L2P Program assists disadvantaged Victorian learner drivers aged 16 to 21 with little to no access to a supervising driver or vehicle to gain the 120 hours driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence.

Young people (aged 16-21) with a current learner permit can apply for the program. If the young person meets the criteria and is accepted into the program, the TAC L2P Program matches learners with a fully licensed volunteer driver.

The learners are matched with a volunteer mentor and learners participating in the program have access to up to seven free driving lessons throughout the program with a professional instructor.

This helps learners build their skills before getting on the road with a volunteer mentor and continue progressing through the four stages of the Graduated Licensing System.

The program focuses on helping young people become safe, confident drivers, in an effort to reduce Victoria's road toll. It also provides an opportunity for young people to interact with positive adult role models, gain confidence and move towards social independence.





SCHOOL INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE

How can we better connect schools and industry in Campaspe to ensure our young people explore local jobs?

More than 70 representatives from industry and education came together in August at Rich River Golf Club to explore ways to form collaborative connections that will positively impact student pathways and industry growth.

Jeanette Pope (who created the How Work Works series of reports) facilitated the Roundtable which first provided some examples of partnerships and then workshops for attendees to suggest ideas.

The Roundtable was organised by Department of Education & Training, CCLLEN, C4EM, Campaspe Shire Council and the Industry Training Hub.

Jeanette's report on the Roundtable and additional information on existing activities was sent to attendees in November. A number of actions will be undertaken by the organising group. Some actions will be addressed by the CCLLEN under its School to Work contract with the Department of Education & Training. An online careers platform is in development with other LLENs in the area.

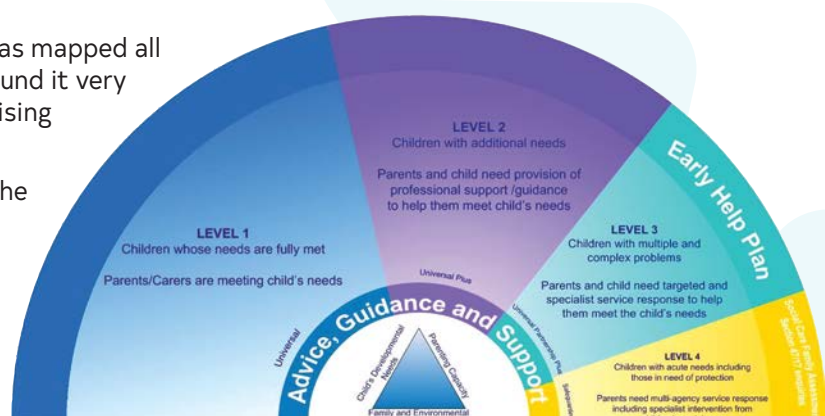
CONTINUUM OF NEED

The Continuum of Need is a tool for mapping a young person on a continuum to determine their level of need against a wide range of domains that support their health, wellbeing and development.

CCLLEN maintains and regularly adds to a directory of services that is hyper-linked to the Continuum of Need mapping tool.

Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School has mapped all of their students using the tool, and found it very helpful in identifying issues and prioritising assistance.

Other schools are investigating using the tool, and requesting assistance with the process. CCLLEN and Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School provided further information and advice. School Focused Youth Service offered funding to cover teacher release to work on mapping students.





MENTAL HEALTH

CCLLEN is an active member of the Campaspe Murray Mental Health Network.

The Network created an information sheet on Keeping mentally well. CCLLEN distributed this to schools for use in staff rooms and when talking to families.

CCLLEN is a member of the Executive Group for the Campaspe Schools and Agencies Wellbeing Network. The network was able to hold face to face meetings in 2022, and via regular emails to members provided information on resources and professional development opportunities.



CCLLEN REPRESENTATION

CCLLEN staff hold positions on a number of groups.

Anne is a member of the Executive for the statewide network of LLENs, as well as the Campaspe Schools and Agencies Wellbeing Network.

Anne also represents the Loddon Campaspe LLENs on both the Navigator Operations Group and the Loddon Campaspe Head Start Cluster.

Jacq is the North West Regional Facilitator of the SWL Coordinators within LLENs. In this role Jacq provides training to new Coordinators, shares information and convenes regular meetings of Coordinators in the north west of the state.



ECHUCA MOAMA BEACON FOUNDATION



We have enjoyed a jam-packed year full of events and programs, and how fabulous it has been to welcome our wonderful sponsors and supporters back into our school communities. We were able to run all of our events as 'normal' with the exception of the BBQ Fundraiser, and our Student Leaders once again amazed us with their capability and maturity.

Leadership Program

Beacon Leaders

Nineteen students were selected to represent our five Beacon schools, with six Year 9 students from Echuca College, four Year 9 students from Moama Anglican Grammar, six Year 10s from St Joseph's College Echuca, two from Echuca Twin Rivers Secondary School and one student from River City Christian College.

Leadership Development Day – 18 February

Leadership day is all about getting to know one another, and to prepare our new leaders for their role as ambassadors for the Beacon program.

Activities and tasks centred around developing communication and teamwork skills, and gaining an insight into their own personal strengths and attributes, assist our Leaders to not only form a bond but to prepare them for their first major event - the Beacon Business Breakfast.

Our leaders all participated with enthusiasm and showed their commitment to their new roles. There was also an opportunity for some of our leaders to practice their public speaking skills. Our Beacon Leader End of Year Celebration will be held in early December. We are so impressed by the positive, can-do attitude of this years' leaders. You should all be very proud of yourselves and the manner in which you represent the EMBF.



Beacon Leaders

Community Events

Business Breakfast – 7 April

Our first community event of the year, the Business Breakfast, was hosted by the Beacon leaders at Radcliffe's Restaurant on Thursday 7 April.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious breakfast, and heard from guest speakers Finn Palmer, Lillianne Jansen and Caitlin Hardy representing the students and Beth Crossman from St Joseph's College representing the Beacon schools.

Our leaders were introduced to the business community and presented with their badges by special guests, Campaspe Shire Mayor Chrissy Weller and Beacon Board Chair Sue Turner. The students then read out the Leader's Pledge.

Thank you to everyone who attended, and to those who offered assistance to our program this year - we appreciate you!

Fundraiser

Our annual fundraiser, the Bunnings BBQ Sausage Sizzle, was unfortunately cancelled due to flooding occurring across the area.

We thank Bunnings Echuca for their continued support of our annual fundraiser, and look forward to running the event next year.

Real Futures Program

Careers Expo

The Careers Expo is the first in-school Beacon Foundation event for the year and is aimed to help students participating in the Real Futures program to begin thinking about future career opportunities.



Beacon Leaders Lunch



Leadership Day

Almost 400 young people converged on the Rich River Golf Club to participate in four 20-minute industry workshops ranging from the Army to Allied Health.

Most of our wonderful presenters are locals, which makes this event unique and such a fantastic opportunity for our young people to network and learn about opportunities in our region.

Almost 100 individuals gave their time, energy and passion to present at this event, and we sincerely thank them for their continued support of our young people.

After two years of modified Expos, it was such a great feeling to be able to host this important event in its original format.

Thank you to the Rich River Golf Club for accommodating us!

Employability Skills & Interview Techniques

In partnership with Campaspe Cohuna LLEN, we deliver Employability Skills and Interview Techniques training to year 9 or 10 students across all five Beacon schools.

This interactive training aims to help students to prepare for interviews and provides some tips and tricks going into the Mock Interviews.

This year we were able to deliver these sessions face-to-face across all schools.

Mock Interviews

Arguably one of the most important programs that forms the Real Futures program is the Mock Interviews.

The Mock Interviews are held at all schools throughout the year. Beacon Leaders are charged with the task of making sure that students arrive on time for their interviews, and that the guest interviewers have everything that they need.

Feedback from students is positive, particularly for those who have not yet had the opportunity to have a formal interview. Most are nervous when they arrive, but leave feeling confident and with some valuable advice and tips.

Students are provided with a feedback sheet from their interviewer, which rates their efforts on their resume and cover letters and their performance during the interview, and gives an indication as to whether the interviewer would offer that student a job.

We have a large team of volunteer interviewers who support our program, and we are extremely appreciative of their time and efforts.

Pathways Pledge Ceremony

Our Pathways Pledge Ceremony was held at the Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School on August 16, with almost 400 people attending.



Beacon Careers Expo



Beacon Business Breakfast

Students from all five Beacon schools, along with sponsors, supporters and members of the community joined together to celebrate the Real Futures program.

Our keynote speaker was former Echuca local and Echuca Highschool student Dr. Dean Freestone. Dean shared his career journey and experiences, from leaving high school in year 10 to returning to study as a mature aged student.

The Pathways Pledge is a public commitment, where students acknowledge that they are ready

to make the most of their futures, and that they will have open minds when considering their career pathways.

Community members are invited to pledge their support in assisting our young people in their journey.

Signing the Pledge Boards is the evidence of commitment to the pledge, and the boards will be displayed in each school, on show for all to see.

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