



The Hon Brendan O'Connor MP
Minister for Skills and Training

The Hon Sue Ellery BA MLC
Western Australia
Minister for Education and Training

The Hon Dianne Farmer MP
Queensland
Minister for Training and Skills Development

The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC
Victoria
Minister for Higher Education, Training and Skills

The Hon Alister Henskens SC MP
New South Wales
Minister for Skills and Training

The Hon Blair Boyer MP
South Australia
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

The Hon Roger Jaensch MP
Tasmania
Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth

Mr Chris Steel MLA
Australian Capital Territory
Minister for Skills

The Hon Paul Kirby MLA
Northern Territory
Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

COMMUNIQUE

MEETING OF FEDERAL, STATE AND TERRITORY SKILLS MINISTERS

Federal and State Skills and Training Ministers met today to reset negotiations on the National Skills Agreement, and strengthen Australia's TAFE and training sector.

Ministers agreed that cooperation on strengthening the skills sector is critical to addressing skills shortages and creating a more productive economy, and undertook to work together in a genuine partnership, and develop joint ambitions for our skills system.

All jurisdictions confront skills and labour shortages across multiple industries and workforce pressures.

According to the OECD, Australia is experiencing the second most severe labour shortage in the developed world.

Nine out of ten jobs of the future will require a vocational education and training (VET) qualification or a university degree.

The wide-ranging discussion made it clear that it is critical the Australian workforce is equipped with the right skills now and into the future.

Ministers committed to working in partnership to continue to grow the pipeline of skilled workers and prioritise skills reform through a collaborative and coordinated negotiation process.

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Minister O'Connor:

Erin Smith
0458 950 010
erin.smith@dese.gov.au

Minister Ellery:

Phoebe Wearne
0408 784 145
phoebe.wearne@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister Farmer:

Emma Renwick
0456 604 189
emma.renwick@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Minister Tierney:

Ben Ansell
0488 777 170
Ben.ansell@minstaff.vic.gov.au

Minister Henskens:

Jordan Matthews
0409 317 892
Jordan.Matthews@minister.nsw.gov.au

Minister Boyer:

Nadine De Bono
0487 878 077
Nadine.DeBono@sa.gov.au

Minister Jaensch:

Sarah Aquilina
0431 059 957
sarah.aquilina@dpac.tas.gov.au

Minister Steel:

Anton Gallacher
0422 574 108
anton.gallacher@act.gov.au

Minister Kirby:

Will Zwar
0483 197 842
William.zwar@nt.gov.au