

**FUTURE SKILLS WA**

*Statement by Minister for Training and Workforce Development*

**MRS L.M. HARVEY (Scarborough — Minister for Training and Workforce Development)** [2.02 pm]: I wish to share with the house the findings of the recently released student satisfaction survey, which illustrates the satisfaction rate of students studying at Western Australian state training providers in 2015. This is the second year the survey has been conducted since the introduction of Future Skills WA. The strong results from 2014 have continued with 87.8 per cent of students satisfied with their course in 2015. I am particularly happy to report that 92.4 per cent of Aboriginal students were satisfied with their course. This shows that our strategic objective to provide high-quality training to under-represented groups is working. Overall satisfaction was highest at Kimberley Training Institute, at 93.5 per cent, and Durack Institute of Technology, at 91.7 per cent. The drivers of this positive student experience include the reputation of the training provider, campus safety and security measures, and the quality of lecturers. This last result is very pleasing and reflects an increase in student satisfaction with our highly dedicated state training provider lecturers from 85.4 per cent in 2014 to 87.1 per cent in 2015.

Since 2009, the Liberal–National government has invested \$288 million in vocational education and training infrastructure. The government will spend \$2.4 billion on training and workforce development over the next four years. This significant ongoing investment has resulted in client satisfaction remaining strong with the Western Australian TAFE system since the Liberal–National government took power in 2008. We have a training system that is the envy of the nation, illustrated by our superb performance at the Australian Training Awards last year, at which Western Australia dominated to take out four major award categories, including the Australian apprentice of the year award. The opportunities and outcomes are outstanding for students who study at one of our TAFEs. Ninety per cent of WA TAFE graduates were employed or went on to further study after completing training, which is above the national average of 88 per cent.

I am confident that the government’s recent announcement that it will amalgamate the current 11 state training providers into five will serve to further enhance student experiences and outcomes. In January this year, I was pleased to launch our new TAFE advertising campaign, “TAFE Choices: Make Your Name”, to raise community awareness of the quality and diversity of courses provided by TAFE. The campaign went to market in January, and I am pleased to report that it has achieved outstanding results. Our market research on the efficacy of the campaign has revealed that TAFE WA has the highest level of unprompted awareness of all major educational institutions in WA. Among influencers of potential students, eight in 10 parents, employers and teachers would recommend choosing TAFE; two-thirds of these influencers reported being positively impacted by the campaign; 15 per cent of potential students are much more likely to consider TAFE as a result of the campaign; and over half of potential students are more likely to consider TAFE.