

SKILLSWEST CAREERS AND EMPLOYMENT EXPO

Statement

HON PIERRE YANG (North Metropolitan — Parliamentary Secretary) [8.56 pm]: I want to thank Hon Peter Collier for his contribution, especially in relation to the Perth SkillsWest Careers and Employment Expo—a great initiative, as he said, that started during his time as Minister for Training and Workforce Development.

However, I was a little taken aback by the second part of his speech. The thing is, on 13 June 2023, Hon Peter Collier said in this place —

We opened five Aboriginal workforce development centres in Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Broome, Bunbury and the city centre.

He then said —

We provided avenues of employment for Aboriginal people and the big miners and employment companies throughout Western Australia. You guys shut them.

That is my point: we did not shut them; they are continuing. As a matter of fact, I did not want to get too political on the last occasion, but one of the Aboriginal workforce development centres was in a high-rise building in the city centre. How could that be of service to Aboriginal people when it was in the middle of the city in a high-rise building? It is just impractical, and I thought it was pretty disappointing that Hon Peter Collier actually made the second part of his contribution. The record needed to be corrected. We did not shut them; we actually expanded them, and they are part of the jobs and skills centres throughout Western Australia.

I think this government has a lot to be very proud of in supporting all Western Australians, including Aboriginal brothers and sisters, and that needed to be corrected.

House adjourned at 8.58 pm
