



A Word from the Board.....

Welcome to the Summer Edition of ITablet

I have been involved with the NSW Community Services and Health ITAB for many years. Prior to my role on the Board I was involved in a partnership project that resulted in an accredited course, course resources and the development of new national competencies for the 2008 Community Services Training Package.

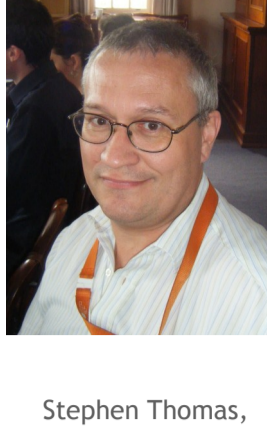
Part of my responsibilities at the Responsible Gambling Fund (part of the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, Communities NSW) concern the workforce development of the problem gambling counselling sector. Education is one of my passions having worked as a teacher in schools, a learning support manager in a higher education institution, a trainer in several workplaces and now managing a workforce development project for specialist workers.

I have been involved on the Board of the CSH ITAB for 5 years and on the executive for 4 years. For the last few years I have held the role of Treasurer. It has given me the opportunity to see how well the organisation as a whole functions and the value for money members receive.

Last week CSH ITAB held its AGM and a Leadership Forum. The Leadership Forum was an outstanding event. There were a range of "take home" messages that each speaker provided. The AGM was no less an outstanding event and a range of knowledgeable, skilled and experienced professionals represent your sector and workplace at CSH ITAB.

The Board wishes you a wonderful Christmas and looks forward to working again with you in 2011.

J. Stephen Thomas
Treasurer



Stephen Thomas,
NSW CSH ITAB Treasurer

Memorable Moments from Leading With Purpose Forum

25 November, 2010

We were very energised by the speakers who presented at our annual forum this year, *Leading with Purpose*. The four leaders provided impassioned accounts of how training opportunities and pathways have guided their lives, workplaces and career choices.



Alex Jones, the 2010 NSW school based trainee of the year, came from Lismore to encourage us all to spread the word about the value of VET in Schools. It would be hard to find a more passionate, enthusiastic and confident advocate of using this pathway into community services to attract our younger generation. She has been accepted into University next year to study nursing from this initial experience working in aged care as an Assistant in Nursing and graduating with a Certificate III. A dream come true!

Denikka Greaves flew in from Deniliquin for the day to share her journey as one of the inaugural trainees with the Greater Southern Area Health Service to work as an Allied Health Assistant in this new job role. She is in the final stages of completing the Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance and shared with us the incredible sense of achievement and pride in working alongside the allied health professionals in a rural area, of bringing the waiting lists down from several months to less than a week in the time she has been in the role. She spoke enthusiastically of this life changing opportunity and how it has galvanised her desire to move into speech pathology at University.

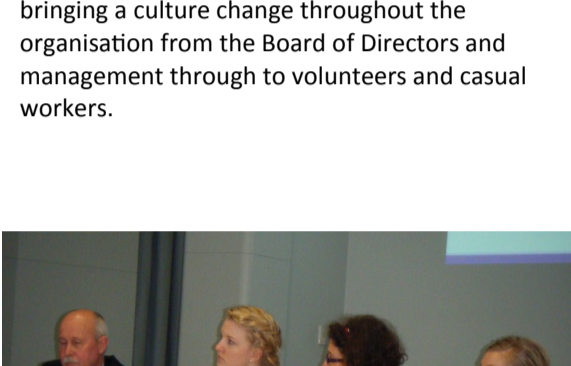


Ed Madigan shared the meteoric changes within the Endeavour Foundation in the past two years. An inspirational journey indeed: growing expediently, incorporating a diversity of training as a foundation for all their staff with a perspective of growing the disability sector as a whole not just their own workforce, bringing a culture change throughout the organisation from the Board of Directors and management through to volunteers and casual workers.

We thank also Deb Stead from Greater Southern Area Health Service who shared the journey of employers and employees to bring about the culture change required in the workplace to establish this new assistant role. For those in community services and health, changing models of working with clients is necessitating a change of job roles. The Rural Allied Health Assistant Initiative is an inspirational model.



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It was another great network meeting, with plenty to digest. All attendees freely contributed to topics without fear of criticism. The opportunity to network broadens your perspective. You always come away having learned something.

Comments from
2010 Networkers

Ongoing Success of ITAB Assessor Network

Established in 2006, the Assessor Network met four times in 2010 providing a unique opportunity for community services and health assessors to share ideas, discuss current vocational education issues and explore innovative assessment practices. The network meetings are facilitated by Tami Casey, the ITAB Workforce Development Officer, and the topics for discussion are chosen by the participants so that the discussions are relevant, dynamic and insightful. The network meetings can be described as 'professional conversations' and offer a break from busy schedules to learn and reflect.

The ITAB anticipates another lively round of network meetings in 2011 with the return of current network members as well as welcoming new members. Assessor Network meetings are held on Tuesdays from 2pm-4:30pm at Gladesville. 2011 dates for your diary are February 15, May 17, August 16 and November 15. Visit www.csh-itab.com.au for more details and registration information.

Children Services- having qualified workers in the sector

New NSW Government Action Plan and ITAB Partnership



In December 2009 the Council of Australian Governments agreed to a National Quality Framework requiring all workers in licensed children's services to either hold or be working towards a qualification at Certificate III or above by 12 January 2012. This affects workers in family day-care, pre-schools, out of school hours care and centre based long day care services. From January 2014 Centre coordinators are also required to hold a Diploma of Children's Services and at least 12 months subsequent work experience.

To help meet these requirements, the NSW Government has responded by developing a plan of action to get workers qualified. The implementation of the action plan will be done as a partnership between State Training Services and the Community Services and Health ITAB. The action plan is a three pronged approach consisting of recognition, training and professional development.

The ITAB together with a sector reference group is developing an industry standard workplace focussed recognition tool and sector guide to encourage a consistent approach to recognition and gap training. All registered training organisations will have access to this resource free of charge to support their existing strategies. Using industry endorsed recognition practices will ensure that the qualifications gained meet NSW industry requirements and achieve employer confidence.



Professional development workshops for registered training organisations will be offered by the ITAB on how to use the recognition tool and guidelines in line with industry standards for children's services. The ITAB will also facilitate professional development workshops for children's services employers so that they will be fully informed of training options available for their employees.

The ITAB will post updates on our website as this project launches from January 2011.

Positive Future for ExeConnect in 2011

ExeConnect, a network for NGO community services senior management first met in September. This small group had plenty of issues to discuss, experiences to share and enthusiasm to spare! It was immediately apparent that a network such as **ExeConnect** has a significant role to play in supporting the needs of this professional group.

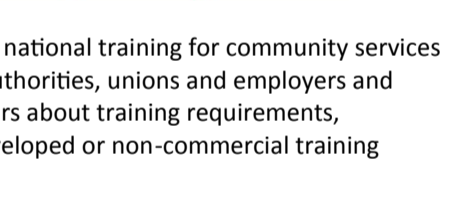
The ITAB is pleased to provide this opportunity to link NGO community services senior management and is keen to see the network grow and strengthen in 2011.

ExeConnect plans to meet 6 times in 2011 and though membership will be limited to enable the group to function effectively there are still places available. If you would like to participate in **ExeConnect** please visit www.csh-itab.com.au for details and registration information.

New Child Protection Section on NavigatingNSW

NavigatingNSW is our web based information resource about implementing national training for community services and health industry sectors in NSW. It is primarily for RTOs, state training authorities, unions and employers and contains current details for all community services and health industry sectors about training requirements, traineeships, VET in Schools, peak bodies and key stakeholders and ITAB developed or non-commercial training resources.

Most recently, a section for Child Protection was added to **NavigatingNSW** that supports the promotion of the NSW government Keep Them Safe initiative. Details about Keep Them Safe and links to new child protection resources are found on this web page. Visit www.csh-itab.com.au/havnsnw



New Careers webpage on www.csh-itab.com.au



Follow the Careers icon link on the ITAB website to access our new community services career information hub. This website provides information about the types of work done by people in the community services industry in NSW. The site uses a range of stories drawn from the experience of those who work in the industry to assist people to learn about career and education and training pathways in community services work.

POLLY AND ME: a short film about child abuse and neglect

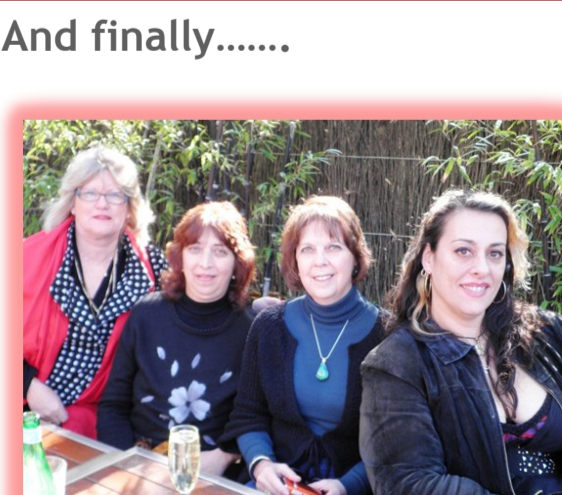
Many of you may have seen this short film on the ABC and now it is available on DVD. Supported by a collaboration of ten philanthropic partners and ten community organisations, POLLY AND ME tells the story of what happens behind closed doors. The initiative draws attention to the importance of preventing child abuse and neglect in our community.

Visit the Polly and Me website <http://www.pollyandme.com.au/> for more information.

The DVD is available for purchase at <http://www.sharkisland.com.au/buydvd/buydvd.php>



And finally.....



Our summer edition completes a hectic spring session and brings with it the festive season so from us all our best wishes to you for a warm and happy Christmas period and a healthy, happy new year. We look forward to catching up in 2011 – sharing projects, workshops, industry gatherings and information. January is looking extremely busy with a strong focus on the children's services sector and our support to enable them to meet the national quality framework mentioned above. Our new executive team and Board meet early in the New Year to plan and oversee our activities for 2011. From us - ciao for now

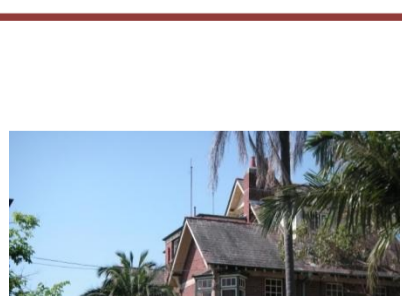
Season's Greetings from Susan, Deirdre, Tami and Kathy

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CSH ITAB is a not for profit association, incorporated in July 1991 under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984. CSH ITAB is also registered as a charity. It is one of 11 bodies currently funded by NSW Department of Education & Training to provide strategic advice on industry skill needs and priorities for funded training under the NSW Training Market and promotion of training to industry.



In its role as the peak NSW body collaborating with the Community Services and Health industries about vocational education and training (VET), CSH ITAB is responsive to over 70 sectors – the broad scope of this complex and diverse workforce. Training across these sectors ranges from higher education to nationally recognised Training Package qualifications; industry specific accredited courses to non-accredited professional development.

MORE.....
We're on the web
www.csh-itab.com.au

