



MEDIA RELEASE

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Adult Learning Australia Welcomes New Victorian Minister for Skills and TAFE, Colin Brooks, and Acknowledges Outgoing Minister Gayle Tierney's Contribution

Adult Learning Australia (ALA) welcomes the appointment of Colin Brooks as Victoria's new Minister for Skills and TAFE.

ALA looks forward to working with Minister Brooks and his office to grow access to quality adult learning and community education for all Victorians, helping to strengthen employment pathways, expand life opportunities, and ensure no one is excluded.

"As Australia's peak body for adult and community education, we look forward to working with Minister Brooks to further expand opportunities for adult learners across metropolitan and regional Victoria," says ALA CEO Jenny Macaffer.

The Adult and Community Education (ACE) sector plays a vital role in improving the socio-economic wellbeing of communities. It offers accessible lifelong learning opportunities that respond directly to local needs. ACE provision spans formal vocational education and training (VET), adult basic education (foundation skills), and personal interest learning (enrichment), providing flexible entry points for learners at all stages of life.

ALA also pays tribute to outgoing Minister Gayle Tierney, recognising her significant contribution to the sector. Her leadership and commitment were instrumental in supporting the Learn Local ACE sector and advancing the *Future of Adult Community Education in Victoria 2020–2025 Ministerial Statement*.

"Minister Tierney had a genuine interest in adult and community education and made a point of visiting providers both large and small across the state.

She worked hard to ensure Victorians, regardless of age or postcode had access to quality education and training to improve their career prospects," says Ms Macaffer.

About Adult Learning Australia

ALA is the national not for profit peak body for adult and community education (ACE) with over 1,400 members representing all states and territories of Australia; the organisation has been operating for more than 66 years.

For more information or an interview with CEO Jenny Macaffer, please contact info@ala.asn.au or call (03) 9689 8623 or visit www.ala.asn.au.

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