

Minutes

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RURAL AND REMOTE EDUCATION REFERENCE GROUP

WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2008
TELECONFERENCE

Attendees: In person: Sonia Godsave (Chair), Tom Barlow, Michelle O'Grady, Andrea Harris, Frances Allyn, Lorraine McGinnis

On teleconference: Loris Doessel, Brian O'Neil, Terry Creagh

Apologies: Rowena Arthur, John Clark, Annette Richards

Executive Support: Jann Piasecki

Agenda Item 1: Welcome

- Sonia Godsave welcomed members to the meeting and invited members to introduce themselves

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of Previous Meeting

- The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 August 2008 were tabled.
- M. Brian O'Neil S. Loris Doessel

"That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2008 are a true and accurate record of proceedings."
Carried

The chair requested agenda Items 9 and 4 be brought forward in order for Kate Owen and Eugenie Levy to present their reports then leave the meeting.

Agenda Item 9: Centres of Excellence Update

- Kate Owen reported that the second round of Centres of Excellence have been asked to provide their final reports so funding can be distributed.
- Mackay-Whitsunday and Darling Downs regions have been asked to provide nominations for two new Centres of Excellence clusters.

Agenda Item 4: Corporate Communications and Marketing

- Eugenie Levy informed the meeting that she had placed the following article on the Schools Update for Monday 10 November 2008.

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Promoting your school

Principals are reminded that Corporate Communication and Marketing has designed the School Media and Marketing Guide to assist schools in marketing and promoting their services and achievements. Located on the intranet, the guide features information on market research, advertising, sponsorship, media releases and event management.

<http://www.qed.qld.gov.au/marketing/procedure/schools/index.html>

Agenda Item 3: Update on Actions from meeting on 19 August 2008

Agenda Item 2. Action item 1. Jann to send Brian O'Neil a copy of the draft paper on the review of the Paid Internships pilot program.

Brian O'Neil confirmed receipt of the paper.

Agenda Item 3. - Action item 2. Jann to arrange for an item to be placed on the EdInfo site reminding schools to use the marketing and communication materials found under Quick Links – Corporate Communications and Marketing.

Eugenie Levy has placed the article on Schools Update

- **Action item 3.** Brian O'Neil to arrange with the Principals Association to have marketing and communications put on the agenda for future meetings.

Brian O'Neil confirmed he has informed the Principals Association of the request.

- **Action item 4.** Jann to invite John Algate or a delegate from CCM to address the 12 November 2008 meeting regarding disseminating communications and marketing information to school principals.

Eugenie Levy provided the report.

Agenda item 6. – Action item 5. Jann to distribute motions from the ICPA Federal Conference to the reference group.

Jann confirmed the motions had been sent to members.

Agenda Item 8. – Action item 6. Notification of the decision re membership of the group is to be sent to John Elich

John Elich has confirmed that he will remain as a member of the group but only attend when matters involving Vocational Education and Training were on the agenda.

- **Action item 7.** Contact is to be made with Training Queensland seeking a new representative. Andrea Harris, Director, Southern Queensland institute of TAFE has agreed to become a member of the group.

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- **Action item 8.** Sonia Godsave to be invited to the November meeting of the group to lead a discussion on attraction and retention of staff in rural and remote areas.
See agenda item 5.

- **Action item 9.** Clarification to be sought on the status of a model for Local and District Relieving Teams.

Sonia Godsave reported on the concept of Local and District Relief Teams.

Agenda Item 5. Discussion on attraction and retention of staff in rural and remote schools.

Sonia Godsave presented a lengthy and detailed report on the issue of attraction and retention of teachers generally but specifically in rural and remote areas.

Brian O'Neil commented that Calen College is hosting an intern this term and the program is very successful.

Lorraine McGinnis suggested university students needed to be attracted prior to their final year as by then many had already made up their mind where they wanted to teach the following year.

Sonia informed the meeting that a new tool aimed at Gen Y students for use by counsellors and guidance officers would be launched later this month. It is aimed at attracting students into teaching as a career path.

Agenda Item 6. RAIS Review Update

Sonia Godsave reported that Ken Rogers had provided his report to a combined meeting of the Rural and Remote Education Reference Group, the Rural and Remote Education Standing Committee and the Remote Area Incentives Scheme Advisory Group. A response to each recommendation is being prepared.

Action Item 1. Jann to distribute a copy of the RAIS Review Report to members of the Reference Group on the proviso that it is for members information only and not for wider distribution.

Agenda Item 7. Report on ICPA State Conference at Mitchell

Lorraine McGinnis reported that 79 motions were put to the conference. Some were withdrawn and others lost including bypassing for primary schools, overseas working visas, pre-prep in Schools of Distance Education, individual approaches to discipline and scholarships for setting up businesses in rural and remote areas.

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ICPA are also interested in providing a parents' perspective to articles in Ed Views. A meeting had been held with the Queensland College of Teachers to discuss pre-service courses and strategies for teachers in rural and remote schools.

Agenda Item 8. Homestay Pilot Update

Jann Piasecki reported that:

- 122 Information packs have been sent to REDs, EDS, principals of host schools, bypass schools and remote schools.

Agenda Item 10. Country Week stall report

Jann Piasecki reported that:

- DETA participated in the Country Week Expo on 19-21 September 2008 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.
- The purpose in participating in the Expo was twofold:
 - a. to attract and recruit employees to rural and regional areas
 - b. to promote state schools in rural and regional areas (and incidentally the Homestay Program)

Agenda Item 11. Other Business

None

Agenda Item 12. Date of Next Meeting

Tentative dates for 2009 meetings have been set for:

16 April 2009	Room 12.18	2.30pm – 4.30pm	Face to face
3 June 2009	Room 12.02	10.00am – 2.00pm	Teleconference
19 August 2009	Room 12.18	11.30 – 3.30pm	Face to face
12 November 2009	Room 12.02	1.00 – 3.00pm	Teleconference