

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



BARRY O'ROURKE MP

Member for Rockhampton



KEPPEL LAUGA MP

Member for Keppel
Assistant Education Minister

8 January 2019

Almost \$2m for Skilling Rockhampton

The Palaszczuk Government is investing an additional \$1.96 million in Skilling Queenslanders for Work projects for the Rockhampton region to help local job seekers train for new opportunities.

Member for Rockhampton Barry O'Rourke said Jobs Queensland was one of the successful recipients in the latest round of Skilling Queenslanders for Work funding to facilitate their Better Futures 2 project.

"This latest round of funding will assist up to 251 locals in Rockhampton to build and enhance their work-ready skills," Mr O'Rourke said.

"The Palaszczuk Government is supporting local organisations in Rockhampton to prepare job seekers for work in retail, construction, rail infrastructure and health services."

"Skilling Queenslanders for Work is designed to provide hands-on work experience in council construction and maintenance crews, Rockhampton Hospital and local aged care facilities.

"This initiative is producing real-world outcomes for people in regional Queensland."

Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga said initiatives like Skilling Queenslanders for Work help people facing barriers to full-time employment.

"Participants will have the opportunity to obtain industry training qualifications for work in the rail industry, retail, construction and health support services," Ms Lauga said.

"The latest investment of almost \$2 million in Rockhampton will assist locals with the real-world training they need to get a job and help local businesses fuel the engine room of Central Queensland's economy.

"The Palaszczuk Government is building the workforce of the future by putting boots on the ground to train in our local community."

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Minister for Training and Skills Development Shannon Fentiman said more than \$34.7 million has been invested in the latest round of the Palaszczuk Government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative to fund a further 156 projects across the state.

"We know that some Queenslanders are struggling to find the right opportunity and that's what makes Skilling Queenslanders for Work so successful," Ms Fentiman said.

"Across the state, more than 20,000 Queenslanders have found work as a direct result of participating in a Skilling Queenslanders for Work project since July 2015."

"Improving job prospects for Queenslanders will boost the local economy and help businesses to grow."

Skilling Queenslanders for Work provides skills development, training and job opportunities for underemployed and disadvantaged Queenslanders through targeted skills and training programs.

73 percent of participants have found work or taken on further training after completing a Skilling Queenslanders for Work project.

For further information visit www.training.qld.gov.au/sqw or call 1300 369 935.

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