



## Skills Plan Progress

### Communicating with Families Project

A number of resources have now been added to the Alfresco site and can be used by all ECEC services. Currently the resources include activities and information on engaging staff with the EYLF, observational records, formal and informal language and oral communication with staff and parents. Some of these have been produced by the literacy mentors in the pilot project services. If you would like to have access to the site please email me & I'll arrange for your enrolment.

### Career Brochure

Our new Career Guide for Education & Care Services has been published. A PDF version has been attached to the newsletter email. If you would like to have some of the professionally printed copies please let me know so I can arrange to have them sent to you.

### Careers Forum

The ECA Careers Forum was held last week. A special newsletter about this is currently being produced and will be emailed out soon.

## Employer of Choice Awards 2013

An Employer of Choice is a workplace with a reputation among its staff as a great place to work. The Awards recognise and promote Tasmanian organisations that, regardless of their size, successfully attract and retain skilled employees. Tasmanian Employers of Choice say being officially recognised gives them the edge in the competition for skilled labour. They are entitled to use the Employer of Choice logo in any recruitment, advertising or other company promotional material. Entries for the 2013 Employer of Choice Awards are now open. For more information and to enter please go to: [www.skills.tas.gov.au/eoc/awards](http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/eoc/awards)

## Grant Alert - Skills Fund

<http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/skillsfund>

The first round of funding for the Skills Fund opened on the 2nd Nov and closes on the 2nd Dec. There are some changes to how this funding is being allocated. Please check the website for more details.



## Sector Website of the month [www.snaicc.org.au](http://www.snaicc.org.au)

The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) is the national non government peak body in Australia representing the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

## Independent Validation of RTO Assessment Pilot for Children's Services

Skills Tasmania and TasTAFE are looking to work with industry and RTO's to extend the Smart e-Validation of assessment work that was conducted through the National VET E-learning Strategy. Following is a link to the project report. [http://industry.flexiblelearning.net.au/images/2012/E\\_Validation/TasmanianSkillsInst\\_Exemplar.pdf](http://industry.flexiblelearning.net.au/images/2012/E_Validation/TasmanianSkillsInst_Exemplar.pdf)  
Any organisations interested in being involved in the pilot should contact Lisa Punshon - Senior Project Officer Skills Tasmania via email [lisa.punshon@skills.tas.gov.au](mailto:lisa.punshon@skills.tas.gov.au)

## Information day on transition to new Training Package Standards

Skills Tasmania is holding an Information Day on the transition to the new Training Package Standards at the Launceston Tram Sheds on Monday, 16 December 2013 (10.30am - 3.30pm). More information about the day has been attached to the newsletter email. To secure your place at this event please email Trish at [trish.ziegler@skills.tas.gov.au](mailto:trish.ziegler@skills.tas.gov.au)

## Teach Out Period (clarification)

RTO's currently have up to 12 months from the release of the new training package to add it to their scope. A 6 month teach out period begins once the package has been added. Further information on this can be found at: [http://www.asqa.gov.au/verve/resources/General direction Transition and teach out.pdf](http://www.asqa.gov.au/verve/resources/General%20direction%20Transition%20and%20teach%20out.pdf)

## User Choice Funding

User Choice funding is based on the nominal hours of a qualification. With the new training package requiring 18 units rather than 15 the nominal hours have increased, as a result the User Choice funding will increase proportionately. The relevant manager of that area in Skills Tas is Carolyn Nicholls.

### Dates to remember

#### November

16 ECA Forum - Hobart

#### December

16 Transition to new Training Package Information Day

19 School term ends

*Cheers*  
Roger

ECA Tasmania Project Development Officer  
[roger.skillsplantas@earlychildhood.org.au](mailto:roger.skillsplantas@earlychildhood.org.au)