

## March 2012 Newsletter

# Group Training Association



QUEENSLAND & NORTHERN TERRITORY

MAKING APPRENTICESHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS EASIER

### *Annual Conference*

The 2012 Annual Conference is in the planning stage and a draft program is now available.

The details are as follows:

Dates: 22nd and 23rd May 2012

Venue: Crowne Plaza, Pelican Waters, Sunshine Coast

The Conference will start at 1pm on the 22nd May and culminate with a Dinner on the 23rd.

The Queensland election may impact on the final program in regards to speakers but in the mean while a draft program is available.

Details regarding accommodation and registration will be forwarded shortly.

For further information or comment please contact Kerry Whitaker (Chair – Conference Sub Committee), Mark Poulton or Dave Mitchell.

### *Queensland Election*

I received an invitation to meet with Ted Malone – Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations and Employment and Skills late last week. Ted is very supportive of Group Training and apprenticeships. Our discussion, a brief one as time was limited, centred on the Election Priorities document I forwarded to all members recently. He expressed concern about the current economic situation and the impact on apprenticeships and is keen to explore options aimed at increasing commencements and completions if the LNP wins.

### *Invite from Management Committee*

The Management Committee in considering the fall in market share over the last 3 years and the actions necessary to increase the Group Training share of the market has agreed on the following actions:

- Extend an invitation to members to join a session on planning for the future at the next meeting scheduled for the 17th April 2012;
- Conduct a survey to understand the needs of members; and
- Schedule a planning session for the Annual Conference

Details of the next meeting will be forwarded in the near future and the survey is currently being developed.

Members seeking further information should contact the committee member detailed on the member liaison list.

The Liaison List is available at [www.gtaqnt.net.au](http://www.gtaqnt.net.au) or call the Association Office on 32577500.

### *Message from WHSQ Executive Director*

The following is a message from Dr Simon Blackwood, Executive Director, Workplace Safety and Safety Queensland in regard to the harmonised safety laws.

<http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/publications/safe/feb12/message/index.htm>



## *Project Updates*

### *Apprentice Work Teams (AWT)*

Project number 43 started today at Westlake involving apprentices from All Trades and HIA.

These apprentices will undertake tasks to repair houses badly damaged in last year's floods.

To date the AWT has involved 358 apprentices with the following GTOs: CTC, Smart Employment Solutions, Acclaim, Apprenticeships Queensland, Downs, East Coast, HIA, Master Plumbers and All Trades. The AWT has also funded a number of Golden West apprentices involved in the clean up after the floods in Roma and Mitchell and has also approved a project involving temporary accommodation for victims of the flood.

On the good news front the majority of apprentices involved in these projects are still in work, 12 apprentices have completed their qualifications and only 7 apprentices have cancelled.

The not so good news is that the AWT finishes on the 30th June 2012.

For more information contact Melissa on 32577500

### *Trade Apprentices*

[www.tradeapprentices.com.au](http://www.tradeapprentices.com.au)

The number of Apprentices registering with Tradeapprentices is still increasing with 463 apprentices listed as "out of trade" as of 6th March 2012. The building, engineering and electrical trades still dominate the list.

The details to date are as follows:

- Total number of apprentices registered since December 2008 – 2179
- Number of apprentices back in trade with private employers – 747
- Number of apprentices back in trade with Group Training – 345

For more information contact Ed on 32577500