

Resources industry remains an exciting career option for Future Generations

From 22 to 24 June 2016, over 350 Year 10, 11 and 12 students from across metropolitan Perth descended on North Metropolitan TAFE's Northbridge campus to experience what the resources industry is all about.

Students from Ashdale Secondary College, Aquinas College, Butler College, Byford Secondary College, Canning Vale College, Cecil Andrews Senior High School, Darling Range Sport College, Kent Street Senior High School, Lynwood Senior High School, Mandurah Baptist College, Mercy College, Mirrabooka Senior High School, Peter Moyes Anglican Community High School, Pinjarra Senior High School, Southern River College and Swan View Senior High School joined a host of volunteer professionals and university students across the three days to discover what the resources industry has to offer and celebrate 5 years of this unique careers event.



A packed house ready for a big day

Each day, new groups of students were treated to an inspiring Guest Speaker; Nicole O'Keefe, Founder and Chair of TradeUp on Wednesday, Order of Australia Medal recipient and Women In Mining Western Australia's Founder and Chair, Sabina Shugg on Thursday and Amanda Rukuwai Donnelly from Australia's 2015 Miner of the Year, St Barbara Limited on Friday; before taking part in eight half hour activities throughout the day.

To reflect an industry with many different entry pathways, student groups were enrolled by preference, into either a trades stream (for VET/apprenticeships) or a professionals stream (ATAR pathways). Trades students took part in activities with electricians, surveyors, field geologists, fluid dynamics specialists, 3D print engineers and human resources representatives. Professionals students worked with environmental scientists, engineers, geologists, metallurgists, electricians and human resources managers.

Both groups also had the opportunity to tour The CUT Mine, a pioneering learning resource at North Metropolitan TAFE, which provides students with a real 'hands on' experience of life underground.

Volunteer industry mining engineers and geologists provided lively commentary about working in an



Mirrabooka SHS students have a go at metallurgy

underground environment. Students also had the chance to chat with representatives from Curtin University, Murdoch University, TradeUp, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources Safety, St Barbara and Sandfire Resources NL in the expo area.

Get Into Resources is designed to showcase the resources industry to secondary students. It focusses on giving students the chance to interact in a hands-on way with current resources industry workers and enable them to explore the opportunities available in the industry which still underpins Western Australia's economy and employs almost 100,000 people. The "people pipeline" for the resources industry is encouraged here!



Pinjarra SHS students try their hand at some electrical work

In 2016, **Get Into Resources** not only celebrated 5 fantastic years but was also delighted to welcome the 1,000th student through the program. This honour went to Gracia Mpinda from Mirrabooka Senior High School, who received a commemorative certificate and book prize to remember the day.



Sabina Shugg AM with Gracia Mpinda

Feedback from all participants this year has been enormously positive yet again.

Students said about the event, that it...

"showed me more choices and opportunities in the resources industry."

"has helped me consider the benefits of a trade."

"has made me see that people genuinely enjoy their jobs."

"changed my perceptions because it's cross-gender and worker friendly."

Teachers comments included;

"absolutely the best careers event I have taken students to."

"less qualifications required than I thought and better opportunities."

"I'm now more aware of many different jobs in the sector."

Prior to commencement, Deputy Premier and Training & Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey encouraged students to take advantage of this valuable vocational initiative. "TAFE offers the best training in Western Australia to lead students into a rewarding and exciting career in the mining industry and should certainly be considered by any student wanting to enter the industry," she said. Many of the students who attended **Get Into Resources** wholeheartedly agreed!



Booths at the expo provided additional opportunities to share knowledge



Aquinas College students enjoy the underground experience in The CUT Mine

North Metropolitan TAFE and Earth Science Western Australia, as well as St Barbara Limited, Sandfire Resources NL, Digirock, Murdoch University, Curtin University, The Resources Hub, Woodside Energy, Eve Enterprises, FMC Technologies, TradeUp, Newmont, Norton Goldfields Ltd, South Metropolitan TAFE, Diversity Network, GeoReg Mining and Compliance, Amec Foster Wheeler, Chevron, Hitachi Construction Machinery, ElectroMagnetic Imaging Technology, Mining People, Alcoa, CSBP, South32, Mag North Projects, BHP Billiton, GHD, the University of Western Australia and Edith Cowan University.

Get Into Resources is an incorporated association which is run by a volunteer committee, comprised of representatives from across the resources sector and education. The committee was once again humbled by the number of volunteers that contributed to making this event a great success. They are also pleased to announce that for the third year in a row, Sandfire Resources NL have offered a fabulous trip to the DeGrussa mine site for three lucky **Get Into Resources** student quiz prize winners. These winners may bring along a friend who also attended **Get Into Resources** and their teacher, for an exciting tour on Sunday 31 July. This year's prize winners are Yvan Oswick-Kok of Pinjarra Senior High School, Melanie Smith of Ashdale Secondary College and Drew Garcia of Butler College. This is the opportunity of a lifetime for the students, all thanks to Sandfire's generosity.

Get Into Resources is the only initiative of its type in Western Australia, providing a high quality interactive experience which brings secondary students, teachers, training course providers, tertiary students, industry representatives and resources companies together.

After 5 years and over 1000 students, **Get Into Resources** is proud of what it has achieved. We look forward to the next 5 years of showcasing the resources industry to Western Australia's secondary students and contributing to the ongoing development of a home-grown talent pipeline for the resources industry.

Get Into Resources is supported through direct sponsorship and resources industry companies encouraging their employees to participate as guests, presenters, exhibitors and activity facilitators. Platinum supporters for 2016 included the City of Perth, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy, St Barbara Limited and Sandfire Resources NL. Gold sponsors were the Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources Safety, the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Bronze sponsors included Westernex and Duval Foods.

Companies who provided in kind support, including staff time include founding partners



Mercy College students orientating drill core with the Sandfire team

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs from this event may be accessed at

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/smqnkxiufjzn9m2/AAACIVIQeTYnJOGKRYx8hwxTa?dl=0>.

All permissions have been obtained for the use of these photographs. Attached to this article is a set of suggested photos for publicity use, with captions, the high resolution files can be downloaded from this link. If you wish to receive a caption to accompany any of the other photographs in the Dropbox file please contact Jo (joanne.watkins@csiro.au) and quote the image name.

ABOUT GET INTO RESOURCES

This annual event is designed to promote interest in resource sector careers by engaging high school students and bringing them together with people employed in the industry, to experience a day of presentations, activities and dialogue. It is for Year 10 secondary school students who are about to make their career choices and subject selection for senior school. Students rotate through a series of 30 minute activities and presentations about a range of resources careers. The workshops feature intimate insights into a range of occupations from industry professionals. These include geologists, surveyors, metallurgists, environmental scientists, engineers, health and safety, human resources, technicians and tradespeople. These workshops can help Year 10 students choose the appropriate school subjects for their area of interest. Schools can register groups of ten students for the 2017 event, currently targeted for 21, 22, 23 June by contacting our school coordinator at joanne.watkins@csiro.au.

For more information visit <https://central.wa.edu.au/getintoresources/Pages/default.aspx>.