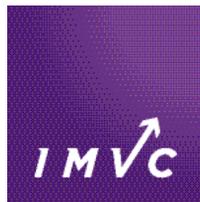




ANNUAL REPORT

- 2015 -



Endless Opportunities

ABOUT IMVC

Established in 1998, the Inner Melbourne VET Cluster (IMVC) is a not for profit Incorporated Association at the forefront of developing best-practice initiatives and programs to best serve the needs of marginalised communities - providing youth services (case management and re-engagement programs), education, training and employment pathways initiatives.

IMVC is committed to the social inclusion of all, and is passionate about providing opportunities for the wider community, especially at-risk youth, to enhance capabilities in applied learning and vocational education and training.

IMVC provides quality professional development services, training, and industry engagement opportunities to address the needs of marginalised cohorts including: youth with disability, at risk/ disengaged youth, refugees, LGBTI and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.

We develop programs with the aim to address and support access to a diverse set of opportunities to explore career options, enhance employability skills, and to provide endless opportunities for all to fulfil their economic and social participation.

Delivering services across Inner North, East and Western Melbourne, IMVC is well regarded amongst schools, government, industry and the broader community; cooperatively and creatively working with these agencies to achieve real outcomes and seamless transitions for our participants. Our diverse suite of services and programs for 2015 includes:

- Vocational Education and Training Brokerage;
- Low-cost Accredited and Pre-accredited Training;
- Workplace Learning Coordinators Program;
- Youth Support Services;
- Social Enterprise - Avidity;
- Employment Pathway Initiatives;
- National Disability Coordination Officer Program.

FROM THE CHAIR & EO

PATRICIA VAN LINT - CHAIR - IMVC BOARD + PENNY VAKAKIS - EXECUTIVE OFFICER

IMVC is underpinned by a dedicated board and experienced staff – all committed to delivering best practice delivery across all our programs, and continuing to achieve significant outcomes as a youth support, education, training and employment provider.

The IMVC Strategic Plan underpins the operations of the IMVC and in particular guides business development activity. This is the reason why, along with our not for profit organisational imperative, we can hold our heads high at a time when the performance of many other private RTOs is inviting calls for an overhaul of the sector.

In a year of funding uncertainty, 2015 has been a year of achievements for the IMVC.

Our outcomes have included:

- Successful re-registration of our RTO and registration as a Non-School Senior Secondary Provider;
- Brokerage of over 40 VET programs to 1481 students;
- Facilitation of 2037 quality workplace learning placements;
- Facilitation of 23 activities that assisted in linking of people with disabilities in education, training or employment including the establishment of the 'Pathways To Success' Disability Cluster;
- Development of Youth Point - an online initiative connecting Employers to young job seekers.

As we look forward, the Board plays a vital role and continues to offer expertise, advice and guidance to lead us. We thank Board members for their professionalism and advice which we value enormously.

We would also like to thank the IMVC staff. We are proud of the passion, dedication, adaptability and commitment they have demonstrated throughout the year to ensure that we maximise opportunities for all our stakeholders.

DISABILITY PROGRAMS

IMVC works with a variety of stakeholders in providing disability services and programs to support young people with disability with training and transition opportunities to further education and employment.

Programs and initiatives delivered in 2015 include:

National Disability Coordination Officer Program (NDCO) - The Australian Government's NDCO Program works strategically to assist people with disability access and participate in tertiary education and subsequent employment. In 2015, IMVC continued to successfully deliver the NDCO Program across Inner Melbourne, Northern Metropolitan Melbourne and Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne, working with stakeholders at the local level to reduce systemic barriers, facilitate smooth transitions, build links and coordinate services between the education, training and employment sectors.

Pathways to Success - Young people with disability are more likely to drop out of school early, be excluded from the labour force, have fewer educational qualifications, experience poverty and be socially isolated. In 2015 IMVC established the 'Pathways To Success' Disability Cluster to focus on strengthening and supporting the capacity of young people with disability to build vocational and employability skill sets. In readiness for 2016, 20 schools have registered to participate in six customised programs.

Transition to Industry - IMVC research indicates that young people with disability are taking approximately five years to re-engage into meaningful employment after leaving school. In light of poor transition outcomes for post-secondary students with disability, in 2015 IMVC developed and successfully registered a highly customised out of school Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) with the Department of Education and Training and the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA). Classes will commence in 2017.

23 activities delivered to **880** people with disability

220 requests for post secondary pathway advice

YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES

IMVC has developed a diverse suite of programs and quality support services for a range of young people facing high levels of disengagement from education, employment, family and community.

IMVC youth support services include:

Western Springboard - A state-wide intensive support program to assist young people between the ages of 16 - 21 years who are disengaged from education, training or employment, or have been in residential out-of-home care and in lead tenant care. In providing a flexible, outreach and case work approach, IMVC delivers Springboard to Western Melbourne, helping youth gain secure, long-term employment by re-engaging them with appropriate education, training or supported employment opportunities.

Making Alternatives Possible (MAP) Program - Designed and delivered by IMVC, MAP is an innovative and flexible re-engagement program that provides young adults aged 15 -17 years with an alternative learning environment to mainstream schooling. Combining pre-accredited vocational education with social welfare, transition, and pathway support, young people can explore their future goals and aspirations, while acquiring the essential skill sets and knowledge in preparation for further education, training or employment.

Momentum Youth Services (MYS) - MYS targets young people at risk of disengaging or who have disengaged from education who are seeking to access support to transition into study, training and or employment. MYS provides integrated case management, outreach and re-engagement support for at risk or disengaged young people aged 15 – 25 across Melbourne with the City of Port Phillip being the main focus.

Refugee Minor Employment Program (RMEP) - Contracted to provide management support through RMEP by the Department of Health Human Services (DHHS) - the Program aims to assist unaccompanied humanitarian minors to receive tailored employment services and referrals to vocational training programs.

86% of MAP participants successfully transitioned onto VCE/VCAL or further training

100% of
Refugee Minor Clients
secured sustainable employment

WORKPLACE LEARNING COORDINATORS PROGRAM

Our Workplace Learning Coordinators (WLC) Program identifies, facilitates and coordinates industry specific learning opportunities for young people aged 15-19 years of age.

In 2015 IMVC was contracted by the Victorian Government of Education and Training (DET) to deliver the program across Local Government Areas including: Melbourne, Boroondara, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Darebin, Moreland, Yarra, Manningham, Monash and Whitehorse.

The WLC Program is a Victorian Government initiative established to increase the number of young Victorians undertaking high-quality workplace learning placements as a part of their education and training.

Through WLC coordination and support, students undertake Structured Workplace Learning (SWL), School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs), Practical Placements (PP) or Work Experience (WE).

IMVC's key role is to build meaningful connections with industry and employers. This enables industry to build its capacity to work with young people, and play a role in career pathway planning. The program also allows opportunities for young people to gain access to industries that interest them in a manner, and to an extent, that would otherwise not be possible.

In 2015 IMVC increased the number and quality of workplace learning placements available to young people by generating quality industry specific learning opportunities for 2037 students.

Work placements spanned across 16 industry areas supported by an employer database of 516.

2037

quality work placements
facilitated by IMVC in 2015

516

employers supporting
WLC Program

99

School Based Apprenticeships
secured by IMVC students in 2015

VET in SCHOOLS

IMVC brokers all aspects of Vocational Education and Training (VET) delivery across the Inner Melbourne region.

We currently broker over 40 accredited programs working alongside 80 schools. IMVC has a proven track record and is the preferred VET broker for these schools.

Our unique Host School model enables schools with limited senior secondary curriculum offerings and resources, to provide extensive vocational programs, without significant changes to internal structures.

VET courses enable students to gain credit towards a recognised VET qualification while completing general education curriculum or work towards senior secondary certificate. VET qualifications, or the credit towards a qualification, are recognised by industry across Australia under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).

IMVC facilitates the RTO relationship necessary for any successful partnership, as well as assisting in implementing and creating specific programs, sharing good practice, and monitoring progress and outcomes.

In delivery of VET brokerage, we work with Government, Catholic and Independent schools, industry, TAFEs, youth service agencies, ACFE/Community providers, local government and RTOs across five Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) regions: Capital City; Inner Eastern; Inner Northern; Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston; and Gateway.

We have been able to bridge the many barriers that schools face in the delivery of VET programs – raising the profile of VET by providing a central service to the quality management of programs.

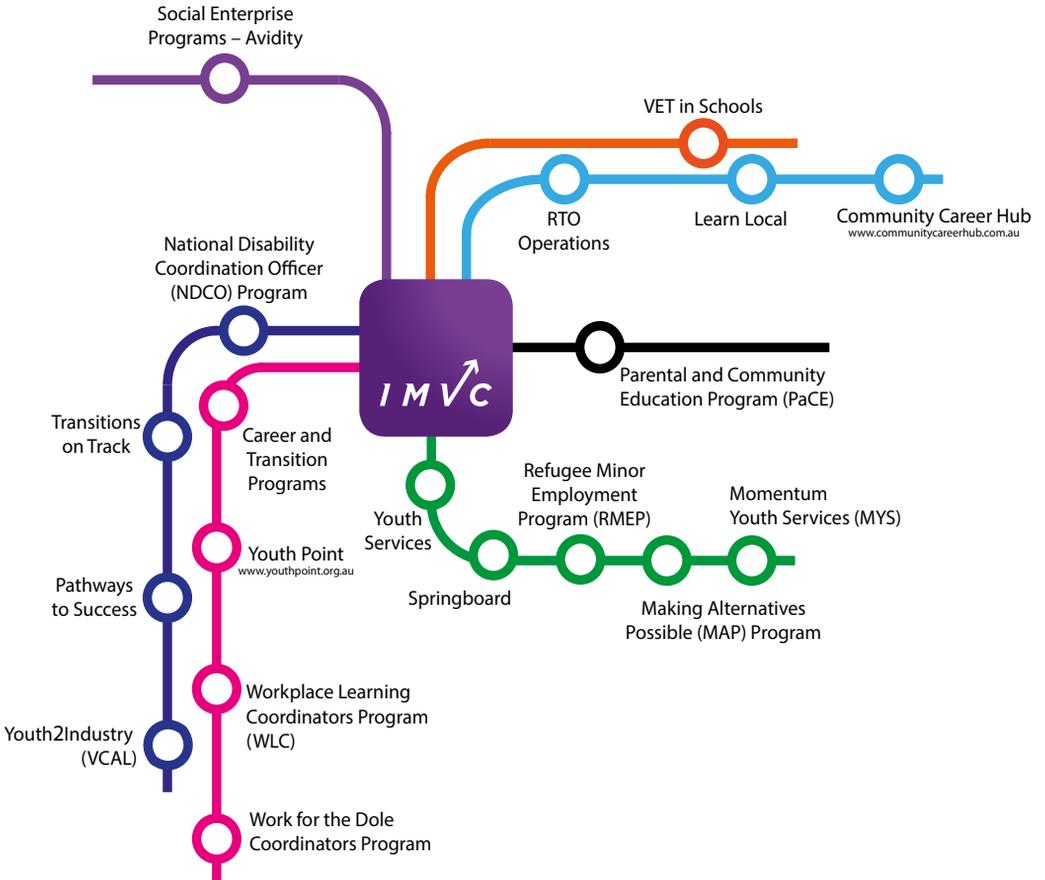


VET Enrolments
130 in 1999
1481 in 2015

AVERAGE COMPLETION RATE

87%

IMVC PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Accredited and Pre-Accredited Training

As a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) our capacity to provide flexible qualification linkages and pathways in education and training is enhanced. We provide small classes, a high level of personal support, experienced trainers – and most importantly – a welcoming place to learn.

- Accredited Student Demographic Profile: 38% of students were unemployed and seeking either part or full time employment; 3% self-identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; 24% were born in a country other than Australia, and 16% identified as having disability. For over 77% of students, the accredited qualification they received was their first beyond secondary school certificates. Completion rate: 84%
- Pre-Accredited Student Demographic Profile: 16% identified as having a disability, 21% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, 34% were from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, 16% had not completed Year 10 or above at school, and 72% identified as unemployed or seeking employment. Completion rate: 100%
- In 2015 IMVC continued to build strong links with industry – helping to make training more tailored and responsive to workforce requirements, thus maximising the employment outcomes for our learners.
- Registered as a Learn Local organisation with the Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board, in 2015 IMVC delivered a suite of ACFE funded pre-accredited programs focused on work readiness, pathway planning and employment pathways.

Parental and Community Engagement (PaCE)

Inner North and Western Regions - Working alongside community Elders and Koorie Education Workforce IMVC implements innovative approaches to improving educational outcomes for Indigenous youth from 2012- 2015.

- Over the program, IMVC has delivered 26 workshops and activities, engaging more than 1000 Indigenous parents, family and community members.
- IMVC was showcased as part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Garrin Garrin Strategy - IMVC was identified as one of the leaders in best practice in acknowledging Koorie culture, engaging with Koorie communities, while establishing high expectations for Koorie outcomes and achieving real improvement.
- From 2012 – 2015, 700 youth engaged in the program, with 87% “better informed” about education/training options. The program received 120 requests annually with 45% referred to education/training providers.

Social Enterprise - Avidity

- Avidity is Australia's first social enterprise Hairdressing Salon, and in 2015 - was listed as one of 'the top 4 Salons in Albert Park' with a 4.8 rating out of 5 (MyLocalSalon).
- Client feedback has been strong – with many clients appreciating that Avidity has competitive prices, is a social enterprise, and offers a great venue with quality service.

Employment Pathway Initiatives

Youth Point

www.youthpoint.org.au

The IMVC proactively engages in the development of initiatives that address the challenges marginalised communities face in securing long-term employment.

For example - in response to the Victorian youth unemployment rate, in 2015 IMVC developed Youth Point - an online initiative connecting Employers to young job seekers.

- Employers can load vacancies, access youth job seeker profiles, shortlist for interview and employ successful candidates. Young job seekers can also access pre and post-employment skills-building workshops.
- Launched in September 2015, within a two month period 96 vacancies were posted; 46 positions were filled; and 140 youth accessed skills workshops referred to by youth agencies and jobactives.

Community Career Hub

www.communitycareerhub.com.au

IMVC was contracted by the Department of Education and Training to develop an online careers resource website for use by all Learn Local organisations and the wider community.

A free and accessible website - information and resources on the Hub assists Victorians to:

- prepare for employment;
- find relevant training and education information;
- explore occupational, industry and labour market information;
- discover career interests;
- clarify skills and values;
- look at different options, and make informed choices.



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