



Dr Shona Batge  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

28 September 2010

Dear Dr Batge

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission from the Australian Institute of Management (AIM) National Research and Policy Office to the Senate Inquiry into Industry Skills Councils.

We are aware of and support the submission to the Inquiry by Patrick Cullen the Executive Director of AIM WA (9 August 2010) who is also the Chair of the Innovation and Business Skills Australia Council. As Mr Cullen noted, that Council provides an effective bridge between industry and providers.

AIM is a not for profit professional association with over 20,000 members in five Divisions across Australia and in addition to providing services to members and fellows, it offers a wide range of courses. These courses while generally focussing on various management processes, have a direct relationship to the improvement of skills across the workforce.

AIM has been working collaboratively at various levels with Industry Skills Councils in order to assist in raising the standards of training, education and skills development for managers and leaders across a wide range of industry sectors and government agencies. AIM has and will continue to play a critical role in workforce capability building in order to achieve a highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce to meet growing demand for increased national productivity.

AIM values the important contribution of Industry Skills Councils such as Innovation & Business Skills Australia (IBSA) in providing high quality training packages with nationally recognised qualifications and competency standards. AIM is in a unique position in being able to provide through its national network, coordinated learning and development programs with a clear focus on improving the performance of individuals, teams and organisations.

AIM also has experience with other councils such as Skills DMC where we discussed management needs as a key benefit in assisting to improve not only the productivity in the resources sector particularly in rural and regional Australia, but also to help overcome some of the problems of specific skills shortages in that sector.

We recently participated in the recent national Skills Australia conference by chairing a workshop on leadership and management. That conference managed by Skills Australia provided an opportunity for some cross discipline and cross workplace transfer of knowledge of skills improvement.

AIM believes that this cross discipline learning, as well as the promotion of the practical benefits of improving supervision, management and leadership skills must be areas of key focus for Skills Australia.

AIM would welcome the opportunity to discuss with the Committee the importance of ensuring that the Industry Skills Councils have such a focus and how AIM can assist in delivering the management and leadership skills to enhance Australia's productivity.

Yours sincerely

Lauchlan McIntosh AM FAIM FAICD  
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