

(Letter to Members of the Ministerial Council)

Dear Minister

Following our discussions at the ANTA Ministerial Council meeting on Friday 15 April, I am writing to request that the matters raised by the ANTA Board at our pre-MINCO meeting be included in discussions by officials about the new national training system.

These matters included:

- Ensuring there is a mutuality of influence between government and industry at the strategic level of decision making through the proposed Ministerial Council and National Industry Skills Committee arrangements. I suggest that this could be confirmed by including appropriate wording in the stem of the respective terms of reference.
- Supporting industry leadership at the framework and implementation levels of the sector by:
  - having a genuinely independent secretariat servicing the National Quality Council and National Industry Skills Committee to ensure industry's views are well advocated
  - ensuring the Industry Skills Councils are firmly embedded into future arrangements.
- The need for continued leadership in improving outcomes for people with a disability and Indigenous Australians, especially as the implementation phase of the work of the past several years is just beginning. It is a broader agenda than VET and there is the scope to have an impact on addressing skill shortages. These matters require two action groups, not one, with joint industry chairs for each.

I also tabled a series of principles which the ANTA Board believes are needed to ensure that the foundations of a quality, industry focussed and national VET system are not lost. I attach these again for your information.

We all have the opportunity to meet today's challenges and to take VET to the next level of quality, consistency, portability and system simplicity. At the same time and at a time of change, we run a significant risk of "dropping the ball". The ANTA Board and its individual members remain committed to working with industry, Ministers and officials during this transition and in preparation for the future.

Either Paul Byrne or I would be happy to elaborate on these matters with officials. I can be contacted on (02) 8874 4501 and Paul can be contacted on (03) 9630 980.

Yours sincerely

*(Original signed by David Hind)*

David Hind  
Chair – ANTA Board

## Principles of an Industry-Led National VET System

- ▶ From the perspective of the client, there will be seamless operation and portability across State and Territory borders.
  - Clients will have access to effective recognition of prior learning and diverse pathways between learning and work.
  - Clients can expect to obtain the general and specific skills they need to be employable and productive in the workplace.
- ▶ Industry is in the best position to articulate their skill needs and say what competencies they want in the workplace.
  - Industry and community needs, both now and into the future, will be taken into account by planners to alleviate current and potential skill shortages.
  - Industry will define national qualifications and standards, which will be endorsed and recognised nationally. States and Territories will not accredit courses in areas covered by national qualifications.
- ▶ Clients will have confidence in the quality of training being provided to them, regardless of the location of the provider.
  - All States and Territories will recognise providers registered in other jurisdictions and courses accredited in other jurisdictions.
  - There will be national standards for provider registration and audit and a nationally consistent system of administering this across Australia.
- ▶ The training system will be inclusive of the needs of all client groups.
- ▶ Employers, employees and students will have adequate information and the ability to exercise choice in making their decisions.