

# Future Leaders Program



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Calling all future leaders...

The Future Leaders Program is an exciting new program developed to provide a fantastic opportunity for potential young leaders in the Esperance/Ravensthorpe region. The Program has been designed to invest in the next generation of leaders by providing them with opportunities to learn and develop leadership skills to benefit the local region.

The Future Leaders Program will be delivered by Regional Development Australia Goldfields Esperance (RDAGE) in partnership with the Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECCI) and South Regional TAFE. All partners recognise the value in building skills and competencies in regional areas that can reflect the unique environment of the region. A Memorandum of Understanding was created by the partners to highlight the importance each agency places on building the leadership and management skills of potential leaders.

Chair of RDAGE, Lee Jacobsen, said the Future Leaders Program is a positive opportunity to build capacity and provide skills for the next generation of regional leaders. "RDAGE are excited about this program and the opportunity for 15 young leaders living and working in Esperance and Ravensthorpe to learn from regional business owners and community leaders while gaining a qualification that boosts their knowledge and competency in the workplace."

"Working with South Regional TAFE and the Chamber to offer a course that meets the needs of the local communities is essential if we want to see stronger and sustainable growth and investment in regional areas".

Bronwyn McLeod, Executive Officer - ECCI sees the program as a positive for local businesses who wish to support their staff in boosting their skills that will then benefit the business. "We are so pleased to be a part of this project and look forward to holding workshops that involve mentoring our future business and community leaders. The Program will provide strong insight into the opportunities and challenges that face local businesses through presentations and discussions from people who are currently operating successfully in our region."

South Regional TAFE Campus Manager Amelia Fitzgerald is excited to be involved in the project on both a professional and personal level. "As one of ten students who completed a program very similar to this in 2013 with the Chamber I can affirm that it was a hugely positive workplace opportunity that enhanced my performance levels and assisted in building my confidence in the business community as a young adult. Now I am in a leadership role where I can provide sound advice and inspire those who are keen to build their skills in leadership and management in the community we live in."

A walk-in session is being held on the 19<sup>th</sup> November at Taylor St Quarters 4.30 - 6.30pm, for any person to call in and ask questions about the program, determine their suitability to be involved and for business owners who may be interested in nominating a staff member.

### **Media Release: ENDS**

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Media Contact:

Jo Swan | Regional Development Australia Goldfields Esperance (RDAGE) | 0417 959 458 | [director@rdage.com.au](mailto:director@rdage.com.au)

