

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Issued: 03 June 2014

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Business & Government in Canberra for TAFE inquiry public hearings

The Standing Committee on Education and Employment will conduct two public hearings in Canberra this week as part of the inquiry into TAFE and its operations. The Committee will receive evidence from representatives of the business community, as well as Government and the National Vocational Education and Training (VET) regulator.

On **Wednesday 04 June**, the Committee will receive evidence from the Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) and the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). Both the MCA and the ACCI are expected to expand on evidence provided in their submissions to the inquiry from an industry perspective, focussing on VET issues that surround TAFE and overall skills development in Australia.

The Department of Industry, the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), and AgriFood Skills Australia will appear on **Friday 06 June** to expand on skills development, discuss governance and regulation for the VET sector as a whole, and add to evidence provided thus far regarding the complexities of a competitive training market.

The Committee will seek advice from all witnesses on how best TAFE and its operations can move forward in its role as a major education provider of fundamental skills for the development of the Australian economy, and as a pathway provider for further education.

Submissions to this inquiry have closed. Submissions received and a link to the current online student survey can be viewed on the Committee website: http://www.aph.gov.au/ee

Details of the hearings are as follows:

Wednesday 04 June 2014 11:20 am – 12:45 pm Committee Room 1R4 Parliament House Canberra, ACT Friday 06 June 2014 09:00 am – 12:00 pm Committee Room 1R4 Parliament House Canberra, ACT

Proceedings will be webcast at http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch Parliament

Media inquiries: contact Kurt Fong on 0439 751 483 or 07 4725 2066

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For information on the inquiry: contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4573, email ee.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee website at http://www.aph.gov.au/ee