

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Inquiry into rural skills training and research Issued:10 November 2005

Chair: Alby Schultz MP Dep Chair: Hon Dick Adams MP

Investigating rural skills in Victoria

Committee Public Hearings in Melbourne (14 Nov) and Geelong (15 Nov)

The House of Representatives Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Committee will be holding public hearings in Melbourne (14 November) and Geelong (15 November) in relation to its inquiry into rural skills training and research.

The Melbourne hearings will take place from 9.00 am in the Monash Conference Centre, Level 7 30 Collins Street.

The committee will hear from witnesses such as Primary Skills Victoria, La Trobe and Melbourne universities and Australian Dairy Farmers. Further details can be found on the web at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ruralskills/hearings.htm

The Geelong hearings will take place from 10.45 am in the Beggs Centre, Marcus Oldham College, 145 Pigdons Road, Waurn Ponds.

The committee will hear from witnesses including Marcus Oldham College, a group of staff and students from RMIT Hamilton and Rural Industries Skills Training Inc. Further details can be found on the web at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ruralskills/hearings.htm

Witnesses will brief the committee on a diverse range of topics and issues from Rimfire Resources' Agribusiness Grad Link program to the priority need for management training in agriculture as outlined in the submission by the National Agriculture Training Provider Network.

The committee chair, Alby Schultz (Member for Hume, NSW), said "our hearings in Victoria will give Committee members an important opportunity to hear from, amongst others, universities, the dairy industry and, importantly, from some students of agriculture".

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, can be obtained from the committee's website at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/reports.htm or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or emailing Aff.reps@aph.gov.au.

For media comment: please contact the committee chair, Alby Schultz MP, on 02 4822 2277 (electorate), mobile 0428 693 553 or email Alby.Schultz.MP@aph.gov.au.

For more information: please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or mobile 0419 468 689.