

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3
Output Group: 3.4

DEST Question No. E746_04

Senator Carr asked on 18 February 2004, EWRE Hansard page 107

Question:

How do you compare nationally and internationally with these outreach programs.

Answer:

Questacon's Outreach Programs

Questacon has provided the following response.

International comparisons reveal there are no comparable programs on the basis of total area covered and diversity of programs offered. Questacon receives delegations from around the world keen to study and emulate the outreach programs. The outreach programs were also a feature of discussion at the 3rd Science Centre World Congress hosted by Questacon in Canberra in February 2002.

Research such as that presented in "Reaching All Australians" (Garnett Sept 2003) indicates that Questacon's Outreach Programs compare and benchmark very favourably nationally.

The efficiency and effectiveness of the existing programs are very high according to the benchmarks formulated by various global umbrella bodies representing the science centre industry such as the North American based Association of Science-Technology Centres.