New $24 million TAFE building opened in Preston

Minister for Higher Education and Skills Peter Hall today opened a new $24 million facility at Northern Melbourne Institute of Technical and Further Education’s (NMIT’s) Preston campus.

Speaking at the St George’s Road site, Mr Hall said that the new three-storey world-class centre will be used by NMIT to deliver a wide range of vocational and higher education programs; from business services and civil engineering to interior design and children’s services.

“This new building will make a big difference to students at NMIT – providing high-class facilities to support NMIT’s high-class training,” Mr Hall said.

“I am particularly impressed with the environmental features of the new building – they are symbolic of the strong and sustainable outcomes the Victorian Coalition Government is delivering for vocational training in Victoria.”

Mr Hall said the Coalition Government was investing a record $1.2 billion a year in vocational training, with $4.8 billion to be invested in training subsidies alone, over four years.

“In 2012, NMIT recorded over 26,200 government subsidised enrolments. This was 34 per cent higher than in 2010, the last year of Labor. We are putting more money in and seeing more enrolments,” Mr Hall said.

“NMIT has a proud history of delivering great training to Victorian students and will celebrate its millionth enrolment later this year.”

Construction of the new building commenced in September 2011 and was completed in March 2013.

Key features of Building F, on St Georges Road, include:

- 26 classrooms with seating capacity for between 30-40 students;
- acoustic moveable walls to accommodate larger groups;
- fitness centre;
- 150-seat lecture theatre with video facilities; and
- more than 200 canopy trees that are being planted around the new building site.

The Fitness Centre at St Georges Road will be open to members of the general public, as well as staff and students.

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