

6<sup>th</sup> June, 2007

The Executive Officer  
 Rural and Regional Committee  
 Parliament House  
 Melbourne VIC 3002

Re: Inquiry into Rural and Regional Tourism

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to this inquiry and wish to make a submission on behalf of William Angliss Institute. I recognize that submissions closed on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June but this inquiry has only now been drawn to my attention and I believe that William Angliss Institute has a valuable contribution to make.

William Angliss Institute is the Victorian State Government endorsed specialist centre for Hospitality, Tourism and the Culinary Arts and has strong links with the hospitality, tourism and foods industries. The Institute and its staff hold accreditation, endorsements and memberships with a wide range of Australian and International industry and educational associations and as a consequence believe we are well placed to comment on your terms of reference.

In particular William Angliss supports the training in the service industries, identified as an area of significant job growth in Victoria, both currently and in the future job growth projections. In particular we focus on training that provides flexibility and supports the acquisition of employability skills. The service industries sector is now characterised by a continuing convergence of job skills and outputs as the distinction between employment sectors continues to blur. With the anticipated 'drift' and shift of the population into rural and regional areas the requirement for training to meet the needs of a changing population demographic becomes of paramount importance.

William Angliss supports the industry position regarding the growth and opportunity in regional and rural Victoria and the important role of the tourism sector as an economic driver. Current government programs to promote and enhance tourism in regional Victoria require support from the training sector to ensure their effectiveness.

William Angliss is committed to a whole of government approach to training and the related funding considerations and is concerned that the hospitality and tourism training sectors are identified as a low priority funding area when our industry data indicates sustained and continued growth in the service skills sector across the state.

**Campus Location**

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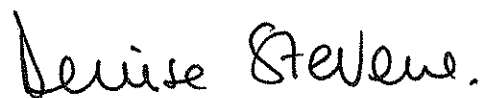
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Continued skills development in all sectors of the service skills industry in rural Victoria is critical to ensure appropriate economic growth. William Angliss through a variety of strategic business and other partnerships currently provides training and support to regional Victorian activity.

As the Specialist Centre for Hospitality, Tourism and the Culinary Arts we endorse and support the inquiry into rural and regional tourism and would be delighted to participate in further, appropriate forums as deemed appropriate by your committee.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Stevens." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denise Stevens  
Director, Angliss Teaching and Learning