

CIT Board Communique – April 2023

Welcome to our new and returning students and welcome back to our CIT staff as we settle in to the 2023 academic year.

2023 will be an exciting time for CIT and the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector nationally. The Board is committed to providing strong governance and guidance to CIT as we navigate our path forward.

CIT is excited to be able to offer fee free TAFE places in 2023 given it improves accessibility to our courses for eligible students. The Board was pleased to hear of the interest in fee free TAFE and the courses that have the highest enrolment numbers. Prospective students are encouraged to apply, acknowledging that CIT graduates are highly skilled which serves them well for their careers.

The Board has begun the year by focussing on the implementation of the Strategic Compass 2025. The Strategic Compass sets out the CIT's vision for student experience, our people, quality education, contemporary skills, campus renewal, digitalisation, partnerships and sustainability.

In the focus on the Strategic Compass the Board has been ensuring that CIT continues to meet student's needs and that their experience at CIT sets them in great stead for their future.

CIT can't meet the needs of our students without great staff who are focussed on our students. The Board wants to recognise the work of our staff in maintaining an excellent standard of support for our students.

The Board also recognises the work of the Interim CEO and the transitional executive who came in to assist in 2022. The transitional executive has been invaluable in rebuilding during this time and the Board has full confidence in the transitional executive and the CIT staff to work together to build a stronger CIT.

The Board takes this opportunity to thank Ms Robertson for her leadership of CIT and continuing on at CIT as Interim CEO while the CEO remains on leave. The Board notes that the Integrity Commission Investigation is continuing and as such the CEO remains on leave to ensure procedural fairness.

The Board continues to be fully engaged regarding campus renewal, particularly as we grow our capacity to work effectively with the Major Projects Canberra Woden CIT development team through the design stages. Staff and teacher input into this process is crucial, so thank you for the investment of your time in an exciting future.

The Board is also excited about the potential opportunities for CIT Fyshwick to update and upgrade facilities as part of the East Lake Urban Renewal. Demand is strong in our region's economy across the trades and capacity to support the needs of industry needs to grow.

The CIT is currently working to deliver a 'right-sized' team to support the implementation of the Strategic Compass. With this team, the Board has emphasised the importance of insourcing to grow capacity within CIT and to reduce reliance on consultants.

Having a right-sized executive means CIT finally has the capacity to implement efficient, supported business processes. This in turn will help to reduce the complexity and workloads staff and teachers continue to experience with outdated systems.

Critical to the work of CIT is ensuring that we are meeting the needs of not just students but of employers and the broader ACT community. Continued quality stakeholder engagement fosters trust, connections, partnerships and opportunities for our students. Robust, transparent and timely stakeholder engagement is critical to ensuring CIT is delivering high-quality, relevant and accessible training and services, and meeting the requirement under the Standards for RTOs.

Kate Lundy
Chair, CIT Board