

25 July 2019

## KIC iWOMEN Project in demand

It was all about the women once again today as the Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) welcomed a group of 32 female students into the second KIC iWOMEN Project for 2019.

The female students were selected into the iWOMEN Project from many different high schools in the Rockingham, Kwinana and Cockburn areas.

In response to the number of applications received for the first KIC iWOMEN Project held in March, and the ongoing commitment from industry to promote women in industry, KIC recognised the need to run a second program to raise the number of girls who might look toward industry for a career in the future.

Now in its eighth consecutive year, the iWOMEN Project provides Year 10 students with the opportunity to explore and understand the significance of industry in the Kwinana Industrial Area (KIA), and the broad range of career options available.

Joining the iWOMEN Project for 2019 is KIC member company BHP, jumping on board as the partner for this project. KIC thanked them for their support along with Mineral Resources and Tianqi Lithium Kwinana who will host site tours for the students.

In a special introductory ceremony held this morning students were formally welcomed into the iWOMEN Project and were presented with their project shirts.

KIC Director Chris Oughton said the iWOMEN Project was a unique program for the local region because it provided an insight into industry for potential future employees.

"This project continues to provide a great opportunity for the local female students into what is more often recognised as a male-dominated industry," Mr Oughton said.

"One of the best outcomes that we continually see throughout this program, is seeing the female students become excited about the possibilities of working in industry, after seeing the numerous and very diverse employment opportunities that are available to them."

"The program highlights the commitment KIC has with engaging women in the workforce and the project will once again promote many opportunities for young women in industry."

Mr Oughton said the project had been designed to help the students with their subject choices for Years 11 and 12, and potentially spark an interest in job prospects within local industry.

“Watch this space because we have some exciting announcements for a brand-new addition to our education development program which will be specifically targeted at increasing female participation in the workforce.”

The number of women who have participated in the iWOMEN program since its inception in 2012, has now reached well over 200, which marks a great achievement for the KIC.

The students who have been selected for this the second 2019 project, will be involved in a variety of activities over 7 days, throughout this school term.

During the program students will embark on many activities, which aim to increase their awareness about the employment opportunities within the KIC and to help build friendship among the students.

Activities will include industry visits, workshop sessions, resume preparation, mock interviews, meeting women in industry, industry review and research, and health and wellbeing.

A presentation evening will be held at the end of the program, to recognise the graduating students of the iWOMEN Project.

For more information, please contact Debbie Hoey, Education Development Officer, Kwinana Industries Council - 9419 1855 or [Debbie.hoey@kic.org.au](mailto:Debbie.hoey@kic.org.au)

**Include pic (attached as separate file)**

**Caption: 2019 KIC iWOMEN Project students with BHP Kwinana Nickel Refinery General Manager Justin Bauer**

**END**

