

5 June 2018

## **KIC's iProjects win international recognition**

Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) is an incorporated industry association working in the collective interest of its industrial members which are located in the Kwinana Industrial Area, and more broadly in the Western Trade Coast. Incorporated in 1992, the KIC has a strong focus on showing students from the region the vast range of careers industry has to offer them.

Several projects aimed at achieving this are run by the KIC annually; iMEN and iWOMEN are targeted at Year-10 students who are heading into the Vocational Education & Training pathway, iDIVERSITY for students with learning challenges, and iSCIENCE for those planning to go to university.

The projects are run under the KIC's Education Development Program, the basis of which is a partnership between KIC's industrial members and the 17 high schools located within the region.

Earlier this year) KIC entered its iProjects into the biennial 2018 'International Partnership Network' awards. There are six award categories judged across eight world regions, Australia & Oceania being one of these.

Mr. Chris Oughton, KIC Director said "We entered the KIC Education Development Program into three categories; STEM; Innovative and Creative Partnerships; and Youth Employability Skills, and won first place for our world region in all three categories."

"Our entries now go on to be judged against the winning entries from the seven other world regions later in the year".

"We at KIC, our members and our education sector partners (the 17 high schools in our local region) can take a good deal of satisfaction from this achievement, and fingers crossed for the finals in October!"

## **Students Graduate From the 2018 KIC iMEN Project**

They have formed friendships, discovered a range of career opportunities that Kwinana industry has to offer, and have been inspired by people working in the industrial workforce.

In a special ceremony held last night 30 male students from local high schools in the area, graduated from the 2018 KIC iMEN Project.

The students, who came together from 13 high schools in the Rockingham, Kwinana and Cockburn areas, were all selected to take part in the prestigious, award winning program.

The program aims to provide 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 that can be available to them.

Over six days, the students were involved in a variety of activities, which boosted their self-confidence and provided them with a wealth of knowledge about the varied roles and career pathways that are available in industry.

Kwinana Industries Council director Chris Oughton said, "I am confident that the students who graduated last night, will go on to use these newly learnt skills in their final years at high school and beyond Year 12, and I am also confident that the iMEN Project has had a positive effect on all of the participating students."

"The students in this year's program have embraced all of the activities and are walking away with skills that will help them with future employment opportunities."

During last night's celebration event, students were able to reflect and share their experiences with principals, teachers, parents, people from industry, and community members.

The students spoke about their many team building and leadership activities throughout the program, as well as their industry visits.

During the program, the students were involved in a variety of activities, including introductions with current employees from KIA companies, including Cockburn Cement, CSBP and Fremantle Ports.

Activities included industry visits, workshop sessions on social media, resume preparation, meeting people in industry, industry review and research.

"The number of male students who have participated in the program since its inception in 2014, reached 150 this year, a very proud achievement for KIC's members", Mr. Oughton said.

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)

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Pic attached as separate file

**Caption: 2018 KIC iMEN Students**

