WHAT’S HAPPENING TO TAFE AROUND THE COUNTRY?

StopTAFECuts FACT SHEET: July 2013

For decades, generations of Australians have accessed high quality vocational education through TAFE, leading to secure, well paid jobs.

But across the country, TAFE is under attack. State governments in Victoria, NSW and Queensland have made savage cuts to their TAFE institutes. They are trying to destroy TAFE. Everywhere the story is the same: courses closed; jobs lost; fees increased.

The only way we can deal with this is to mount a sustained national campaign against the TAFE cuts.

The Federal Government has recently conducted an inquiry into TAFE. There were more than a thousand submissions to this inquiry – an unprecedented response. Many Australians took this opportunity to let the government know how much the Australian community values TAFE, and the damage that budget cuts are doing to TAFE institutes.

But state governments are continuing their damaging cuts to TAFE.

In Victoria, the government has already slashed more than $300m from its TAFE institutes. Hundreds of TAFE courses have been shut, campuses are being closed and more than 2,400 TAFE workers have lost their jobs. Students are now being forced to pay tens of thousands of dollars for courses which they previously accessed at a modest cost.

In Queensland, the LNP government is threatening to close 38 of the state’s 82 TAFE campuses. It has already cut more than $100m from TAFEs’ budgets. They have recently announced that all TAFE institutes in Queensland will lose control of their campuses, which will be opened for private for profit providers to use.

In NSW, the government has cut more than $130m from TAFE. More than 800 TAFE workers will lose their jobs over the next four years. Courses are being cut, students fees have increased and campuses are threatened. The NSW government has foreshadowed further job cuts and even larger fee increases for students later in 2013.

These cuts can’t be allowed to continue. Please add your voice to make this a powerful campaign our political leaders can’t ignore.

For more information: stoptafecuts.com.au facebook.com/stoptafecuts @TAFECampaign

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