

21 April 2020

SUPPORT FOR RIVERINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The NSW Government will deliver funding to the Riverina Community College to assist their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Riverina Community College will receive an additional \$81,561 grant as an Adult and Community Education Provider contracted by the NSW Government.

The Riverina Community College not only plays an important role in the local community but as a contracted provider also supports the NSW Government's objectives to help vulnerable students on a pathway to jobs by re-engaging students in learning and preparing them for work.

Wagga Wagga based Nationals MLC, Wes Fang, said the grant was needed to help education providers retain staff and provide additional funding to accelerate development of online learning at a time when the number of students physically attending colleges has decreased across NSW.

"This funding will go a long way to support the College during the COVID-19 pandemic and it will allow them to undertake innovative work to prepare for online learning," Mr Fang said.

"This College is a vital educational institution in the Riverina area. It is made up of local students, teachers and other staff which form our community."

Dianne Potter, General Manager at Riverina Community College said "Riverina Community College would like to acknowledge its appreciation of the commitment to our sector by the Honourable Dr Geoff Lee and his team".

"It is extremely gratifying to know that the Minister is supporting our sector in this difficult time. This grant will greatly support the work currently being undertaken to ensure the services the College provides to the community are able to adapt and evolve" Ms Potter said.

"The College would also like to acknowledge the efforts by Don Perglot, CEO of Community Colleges Australia, in raising the profile of the work we undertake" said Ms Potter.

Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education Geoff Lee said it was important to support the sector during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Many providers are using this challenging period to upskill and develop their online delivery. The NSW Government will always support our educational providers in the most appropriate ways during this pandemic," Mr Lee said.

(ENDS)

For further information, please contact Wes Fang on 0412 597 747.