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The Cairns Weekend Post

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Joining a growing industry: A number of indigenous cadets recently graduated with certificates in Community Services related fields.

A healthy industry

MANY people don't realise that Health and Community Services is actually the second largest industry in Cairns.

It provides employment for about 8800 people, which is nearly 10 per cent of the local workforce.

Health and Community Services isn't just big; it's also incredibly broad, incorporating jobs in medical and nursing



ALISA HALL
Deputy director, Health and Community Services Workforce Council

services, early childhood education and care, allied health, disability services, mental health, youth services,

aged and community care, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and many other areas.

Despite the turbulent economic climate that has shaken many other industries, during the past five years employment in Health and Community Services has grown by 25.6 per cent, making it Australia's fastest-growing industry.

In the next five years Health and Community Services is expected to account for about one in four new jobs, which will amount to thousands of additional Cairns-based jobs in everything from medical and community health services through to children's services and social housing.

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Unemployment up

ALMOST 40,000 full-time jobs were lost in November, according to the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics employment figures.

An increase in part-time work, however, resulted in Australia's total employment dropping by 6300 jobs.

The national jobless rate, seasonally adjusted, rose from 5.2 in October to 5.3 per cent in November.

Queensland's unemployment rate also rose, from 5.7 to 5.8 per cent.

More work wanted

AUSTRALIANS want to work more but cannot for a variety of reasons, an Australian Bureau of Statistics report on barriers and incentives to labour force participation finds.

The report says 1.7 million people aged over 18 wanted to contribute more to the labour force. At June 2011, 1.4 million people were not employed but wanted a job. Up to 273,500 Australians usually worked fewer than 16 hours a week and wanted to work more.

Trainees and trade

THE number of Australians in apprenticeships and traineeships has jumped by 5.2 per cent in the year to June, with 462,400 people in training. A 3.8 per cent increase in the number of people starting trade occupations also was reported, while there was an 11.5 per cent increase in the number of people starting non-trade occupations. Figures between the March and June quarters found trade and non-trade commencements fell by 1.1 per cent and 0.5 per cent respectively.

We've probably already found precisely what you're looking for.

Office Administrator

This busy role represents a fantastic opportunity for an experienced Office Administrator & Accounts all-rounder.

Reporting to the Regional Accountant, you will complete accurate reporting & invoicing, assist with the preparation & reporting of financial & management information, & generally assist the Finance Team with day to day accounting & administration procedures.

Ideally, you will have a solid grasp on the accounting function as a bookkeeper or accounting assistant & looking for a long term career opportunity where you will be encouraged to develop & grow. You must have intermediate to advanced Microsoft Office knowledge with exceptional Excel skills. An understanding of JDE & the ability to acquire knowledge of other common business applications will be highly regarded.

This company offers fantastic career prospects & your positive work ethic & loyalty will see your dedication rewarded over time.

Email lori@precruitment.com.au

Professional Roles

Public Accountants Multiple roles available for:

- Auditors - senior & intermediate
- Business Services & tax - intermediate & senior manager
- Paraplanner - senior

In all instances you should have a proactive attitude, good communication skills, a strong work ethic & ability to meet tight deadlines.

Project Manager Experienced in the production planning & operational implementation of a greenfield minesite, you will have exceptional leadership credentials & effective communication skills. You will be a qualified mining or chemical engineer with certification in project management.

Lawyers/Solicitors Several positions:

- Commercial & Commercial Litigation Lawyers
- Employment Lawyer

With at least 4 years PAE you will have a professional approach & well-rounded skills. You will need excellent communication skills & the ability to listen & empathise with client needs.

Email leslie@precruitment.com.au

Strategic & Analytical

Asset Planning Engineer Join an established team coordinating & prioritising capital works projects for Regional Queensland. Based in Cairns or Townsville, you will be a qualified Electrical Engineer with the ability to analyse, review and plan, using a strategic approach. Experience in or an understanding of transmission & power distribution systems will be highly regarded.

Business & Project Analyst Multiple roles available. You will be responsible for designing & modelling business solutions to enhance program effectiveness. Must have extensive experience in the areas of research, analysis, reporting & evaluation together with advanced Excel & PowerPoint skills.

Project Manager Responsible for project planning, development & co-ordination of a Housing project for a leading NFP organisation. This important project focuses on working in consultation with people to renovate their homes & surroundings. Must have minimum 5 years Project Management experience with the ability to think strategically.

Email rebecca@precruitment.com.au

Temporary Opportunities

Draftsman Earn some extra income over Christmas with this short term assignment requiring an immediate start. Advanced AutoCAD experience essential along with exposure to a variety of drawing management systems.

Asset Management Engineer Extensive experience in asset management, operations and/or maintenance in the water industry is required for this high level role. Experience in SCADA tools & tertiary qualifications in engineering are essential. Join a professional & committed team in a well equipped work environment.

Mechanical & Electrical Engineers Multiple positions available for immediate starts. Applicants must be RPEQ qualified & be experienced in diesel power generation. Minimum 3-4 years post graduate experience.

Sales Administrator Fast paced role requiring an experienced & organised administrator to support a dedicated team. Applicants must have experience in the print media industry, either in an administration or sales role. Immediate start required, ideally before Christmas.

Email caitlin@precruitment.com.au



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Tourism trainees succeed



Achievement: Seven trainees who have spent seven months working at The Wildlife Habitat in Port Douglas as part of a Careers Training Centre program have successfully gained their Certificate III in Tourism & Hospitality.

SEVEN trainees have completed qualifications at Australia's leading wildlife experience, The Wildlife Habitat in Port Douglas.

The trainees recently received their Certificate III in Tourism & Hospitality at a special ceremony at the habitat after several months of training conducted by tourism training organisation Careers Training Centre.

The traineeships consisted of working part-time at the Wildlife Habitat and other businesses in the Mossman region, commencing in May and finishing in November.

All participants will work at the new Mossman Gorge Centre, scheduled to open in 2012.

CaPTA staff development officer Penny Cleland said the trainees' achievements demonstrated how other tourism operations outside of The CaPTA Group could benefit from training programmes at the Careers Training Centre.

"Congratulations to all of our trainees for completing their traineeships, this really does show

the overall impact these programs have on the region's tourism industry, by strengthening the skills base in the indigenous community," she said.

"The CaPTA Group is highly committed to the ongoing development and training of indigenous people in the tourism and hospitality industry in the Mossman Gorge community and we will continue with our support and commitment in this area."

The Careers Training Centre is a leading training organisation that increases skills and broadens employment opportunities through education and training within the tourism and hospitality industry. It is a partnership between Career Training Institute of Australia and The CaPTA Group, which is locally owned and operated by the Woodward family of Cairns.

Famous for Breakfast with the Birds, The Wildlife Habitat is one of Australia's leading wildlife experiences, providing visitors with a chance to observe up close a huge range of flora and fauna.

A growing industry overcoming many challenges

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While this rapid and ongoing growth will generate fantastic long-term career opportunities for new and existing workers, it will also present employers and the industry as a whole with big challenges as we struggle to maintain a skilled workforce that is large enough to keep up with the growing number of job vacancies.

Competition for available workers and increasing skill shortages are already impacting the industry, while an ageing workforce means we will see a

significant number of our workers retire in the next five to 10 years.

My organisation, the Health and Community Services Workforce Council, is a peak body for our industry in Queensland and specialises in workforce development to overcome these very challenges and ensure that we have enough people with the right skills to keep vital services operating in our communities.

We do this by working hand-in-hand with individuals, workplaces, education and training providers, consultants and industry organisations to promote workforce and skills

development, broker professional development and advocate on behalf of our industry.

An excellent example of this work in action is the recent Cairns Regional Workforce Development Forum, which brought together more than 70 local employers, education and training providers, employment services, government and regional planning bodies.

The forum enabled these stakeholders to play an integral role in the development of future education, recruitment and expansion strategies to meet the future needs of the Cairns region.

As a result, plans to help sustain

services and jobs in the region and to attract more young and indigenous people are now being developed.

ACT for Kids' Indigenous Workforce Strategy is an example of workforce development benefitting the Cairns region.

In the support program last month, nine indigenous cadets graduated with certificates in Community Services related fields.

The cadetship program ensures skilled, passionate people are able to make a real difference in their communities.

Combining practical experience, study support, job readiness and

assistance beyond graduation ensures these cadets are now equipped to go out and strengthen the community services workforce in and around the Cairns region.

The coming boom in the Health and Community Services industry means that there has never been a better time to pursue a long-term career while supporting your local community.

For more information on jobs, education and vacancies within the Health and Community Services Industry visit <http://www.careerthatmatter.com.au> and <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/workforus/>



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—Alisa Hall, deputy director, Health and Community Services Workforce Council