

FOREWORD



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ACCI has always known the importance of the role of education and training as key business strategies for the short and long term economic health of the both private business and public sectors. Competing globally means Australia needs to develop best practice approaches to many of its key business strategies including education and training.

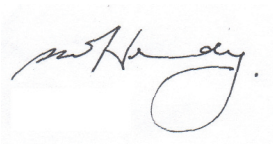
ACCI's education and training policies are developed through a democratic decision making process by its member organisations. The key policy drivers are choice, flexibility, quality, national consistency, the use of clear, simple language, the reduction of unnecessary red tape and fostering a competitive environment.

Responsiveness to the needs of business and industry is essential in considering those aspects of education and training that contribute to skills formation and development.

A learning culture as part of lifelong learning requires the joint efforts of individuals, businesses, industry and governments.

This document, *Skills for a Nation: a Blueprint for Improving Education and Training 2007 - 2017*, outlines a series of measures to improve the quality of education and training and to foster a culture of learning and continuous improvement.

We commend it to policy makers, not only in Canberra, but right across the nation's state capitals. In addition we believe that it should be a useful source document for those doing research on the education and training sectors in Australia.



Chief Executive

