

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Training and Skills

Minister for Higher Education



Thursday, 11 February 2021

WORK BEGINS ON \$2.5 MILLION SEYMOUR TRAINING CENTRE

Construction on a new training centre at Seymour GOTAFE will now begin thanks to the Andrews Labor Government, giving students the best learning experience in a state-of-the-art facility.

The \$2.54 million Health and Community Services Training Facility will feature tutorial rooms, lecture theatres, computer labs and a clinical simulation centre to give students realistic training through interactive technology.

The project will also include student amenities and upgraded staff offices.

It will be used by students studying First Aid, Nursing, Aged Care and Community Services – giving them pathways to meaningful work and addressing skill shortages in the region.

Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney today visited the site to turn the sod and announce Lloyd Group will build the facility.

The project was designed by Vincent Chrisp Architects through a collaborative process with locals from the region.

It is expected to be completed in October 2021 with lessons to begin at the start of 2022.

Since 2015, the Labor Government has invested to rebuild TAFE, refurbish campuses, launch *Free TAFE for Priority Courses* and support disadvantaged students into training and jobs.

In the *Victorian Budget 2020/21*, we invested a record \$1 billion to make sure the state has the training and skills system it needs to emerge stronger from the coronavirus pandemic.

Quotes Attributable to Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney

"Students in Seymour and the surrounding communities deserve the best training facilities and that's what this project will deliver."

"TAFE is a ticket to skills, jobs and a stronger Victoria – that's why we're committed to strengthening it through record investments."

Quote Attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"This facility is going to deliver a huge boost to the training and job opportunities available to people in Seymour, as well as a great boost to the local economy throughout construction."

Quote Attributable to GOTAFE Chief Executive Officer Travis Heeney

"We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support from the Victorian Government which ensures GOTAFE provides students with contemporary, real-world training in state-of-the-art learning environments."