



RNA Career and Training Expo

Tuesday 5 August

Rural students will have the opportunity to rub shoulders with the agricultural industry's elite at this year's RNA Career and Training Expo.

Now in its second year, the Career and Training Expo was designed to provide students with information and assistance with career options in the rural sectors.

The one-day event focuses on providing post-compulsory, school-aged youth with connections to Australia's elite rural industries, as well as lifestyle and training pathways.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said this year's Expo is especially important as it provides a forum for Australia's rural community to solve the rural skill shortage crisis.

"By hosting the Expo the RNA is playing a key role in helping to address the skills shortage in Queensland," Mr Tunny said.

"There are currently 70,000 unfilled jobs in the agricultural industry and it is up to the RNA to assist the industry in fixing this crisis."

The RNA is working to fix this shortage through the Expo's career navigating services.

This service, which is provided by industry professionals aged 18-35 years, ensures each participant's individual skills and experience are matched with the correct industry official.

Mr Tunny said the career navigating services ensures that each youth makes the most of a day that offers such valuable services.

"These youths are often only in Brisbane for a short period during the Ekka, so the career navigating officers work hard to ensure each participant receives the best possible advice," Mr Tunny said.

The Expo coincides with several other agriculturally-based competitions, so it is the perfect time for students to network with industry officials and each other.

"So many people frequent the Ekka every year, enabling us to appeal to such a wide demographic, from the country and the city alike"

Mr Tunny also said the Expo was an invaluable tool for rural school leavers who travel to Brisbane for the Ekka.

For More Information

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“The Career and Training Expo provides a value-added opportunity for rural youths to compete in the Ekka and look at their career options at the same time,” Mr Tunny said.

Exhibitors in 2007 included the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Rural Industry Training and Employment, University of Queensland and Rural Skills Australia.

This year several new businesses are involved, including Australian Country Choice and Rimfire Resources.

The RNA Career and Training Expo will be held at 9.00am – 2.30pm on the Energex Community Arena, RNA Showgrounds on Tuesday 5 August, 2008.

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