

14 March 2019

Linda Simon
TAFE Community Alliance

Sent via: lindasimon2@bigpond.com

Dear Ms Simon

I refer to the TAFE Community Alliance 'Standing Up for TAFE' election campaign and thank you for the opportunity to express my support for a properly funded and sustainable TAFE system.

TAFE is especially important in second-chance learning and training for people with disability, returning to work after caring for children, with limited literacy and who are over 55. I am a strong supporter of TAFE and recognise its importance in practical training and educating people for the workforce. I've also supported lifelong learning and the role of non-profit organisations like community colleges and neighbourhood centres. I share your concern that funding cuts and new requirements that force providers to compete for government funds put these vital roles at risk and have failed to produce better education and training options or outcomes. Despite more providers, major gaps in training are growing and there is a trail of students who have lost money and not gained qualifications.

In response to your questions:

- Yes, I support increased government funding to ensure a sustainable publicly funded TAFE in NSW;
- Yes, I will work to oppose the competitive training market in vocational education, and ensure TAFE NSW is supported as the public vocational training provider in this state;
- Yes, I support local TAFE colleges for local industries and communities, ensuring a wide range of hands on training facilities across this state.

Education is too important to leave to the market alone. I have supported the Stop TAFE Cuts campaign and support your current campaign. If re-elected, I hope to work with you to ensure the future viability and expansion of TAFE vocational training and education.

Yours sincerely



Alex Greenwich
Member for Sydney

