

Environment Policy

Wodonga institute of TAFE is a quality provider of post-secondary vocational education and training. We are constantly monitoring the needs of the local economy. In doing so, the future growth and prosperity of the region are considered along with promising job opportunities for graduates, ensuring equal learning experiences for all students.

Wodonga Institute of TAFE was judged Australian Large Training Provider of the Year in 2008 due to its commitment to lead practice and excellence in the delivery of vocational education and training to diverse groups of learners from industry and the community. We are enhancing this commitment with an innovative multi-disciplined and multi-faceted holistic approach to more effectively achieve the sustainability goals and objectives identified in our strategic plan.

Wodonga Institute of TAFE is committed to practising and teaching the principles of sustainable development. Our future work shall be conducted considering the social and environmental consequences as well as financial outcomes of our practices and policies.

The infrastructure, operating systems and work practices of the Institute will be designed, purchased, maintained and developed to minimise resource use and waste without compromising our core business.

Resource use and waste shall be minimised using the following strategies in order of priority:

Firstly: Reduce or, if possible, eliminate (try to reach the desired outcome with fewer inputs).

Secondly: Reuse (try to ensure resources are used again for a similar or different purpose).

Thirdly: Recycle (try to ensure used resources enter a reprocessing rather than a waste stream).

Our strategic directions and objectives include:

Environmental sustainability - demonstrate leadership as an environmentally responsible organisation, committed to a range of exemplary, sustainable practices.

The rationales underlying our strategic environmental goals include:

- responsibly meet sustainability objectives
- create a healthier, safer workplace.
- improve our financial bottom line.
- display leadership in our region.
- enhance our image and impact in the community.

Wodonga Institute will seek to implement the principles of sustainable development within the following specific areas.

Workforce Development

Equipping our labour market with the skills required for a smooth transition to a low carbon, sustainable economy, including re-skilling the existing workforce to transition to 'green collar jobs'.

VET System Products and Services

Including sustainability competencies and concepts in all training packages, skill sets and customised accredited courses, particularly those related to production, distribution, storage, consumption, and waste management activities.

Leaders, Partners and Champions

Supporting leaders, partnerships and champions who can promote best practice examples of integrated and innovative workforce development activities.

Reducing carbon footprint

Leading the deployment of innovative technologies and practice across production, consumption, conservation and waste management activities. Strategies for achieving a low carbon, sustainable economy will include reduction in demand for energy from carbon intensive sources through energy efficiency and conservation measures, and by shifting to alternative renewable energy supply-side measures.

Practical implementation

Within Wodonga Institute of TAFE, two teams have particular accountability for driving change.

The Shared Services Department is responsible for managing resources and equipment acquisition, infrastructure, maintenance, energy consumption and waste management.

The Centre for Sustainable Skills is accountable for curriculum development with respect to sustainability, research, grant applications to support government and industry, and partnerships and promotion within the community relating to green skills and future skills.

Michael O'Loughlin
CEO

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