



Tim **Mulherin**

Labor for Queensland

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Ms Linda Simon
National Convenor WAVE
Via Email: Lindasimon2@bigpond.com

Dear Ms Simon

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 January 2015 concerning Labor's commitment to women and girls and vocational education and training.

Labor believes in equal opportunity for all, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or personal circumstances. Over 50% of the current Labor caucus comprises women, a fact that we are very proud of and a stark contrast to the LNP's front bench that includes only two women.

When the LNP came to power in 2012 the number of women in the Queensland Parliament fell from 32 to just 17.

Labor has announced that it will invest \$34 million over three years to *Rescuing TAFE*, a policy designed to halt and reverse the decline of TAFE in Queensland which has been subject to savage cuts made by the Newman Government. This policy includes funding for up to 100 hundred new teachers, extra support staff, regional support positions and extra funding for VET in Schools.

A Labor Government will introduce *Advance Queensland*, Labor's plan to develop the knowledge-based jobs of the future. *Advance Queensland* includes \$1 million for the Advance Women's Academic Fund and 20 Advance Queensland University Scholarships for post-graduate students each year.

Labor is the only party in Queensland that will fight for equality for all Queenslanders and will work to rescue TAFE and strengthen our vocational education training sector. Labor is further committed to vocational and job training by providing employers with an extra payroll tax rebate of 25% on the wages of all apprentices and trainees. A Labor Government will reinstate the successful Skilling Queenslanders for Work program to help jobseekers find employment.

A better way for Queensland **Labor**

Queensland



I encourage you to view all of Labor's policies at <http://annastacia.com.au/>. Thank you for taking the time to write to Queensland Labor and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Mulherin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "T".

Hon Tim Mulherin MP
Deputy Leader of the Opposition