Education supporting the development of capability and productivity

Minerals & Energy Council Conference

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Where might we be in 5 years time?

- **Think Disruption** - disjuncture between productivity and pay; current digital revolution not as extensively transformative as steam and electricity – thus we see a shift to intensive growth & innovation;

- What has happened to labour may happen to capital – not always as much capital needed to get started thus not many workers needed to build capital;

- **Sharing economy** – benefitted consumers (more things available for free) but what of producers? Implications for work?

- **Catch up learning & innovation learning** (story of lean training)

- Emerging economies in catch up mode – but after that?

- NOW: **Tasmania – in catch up mode**/ then what? Are we prepared?

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Understanding the gap in education in Tasmania:

- School leavers with an ATAR but don't consider further education
- Mature age engagement below equivalent national participation rates
- Totals around 35,000 in Tasmania
- Poor "buy in" to further education – especially in regional areas

Demand:

- Workforce productivity (note the Denny report on Tasmania's productivity profile)
- Emerging industries - can we link access to innovation (robot mechanic)
- Regional skills and shortages
- Supply-chain analysis – what we learned form the manufacturing supply chain analysis
- Industry input – sometimes they don't know what is needed, but they know what they don't want.

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Associate Degrees – a crucial gap in the market & System

- Sound and useful foundations – demonstrating its usefulness upfront brings ‘buy-in’.
- Technical know how/discipline knowledge
- Vocational experience – practice
- Academic learning and capabilities e.g. problem solving
- Different from the TAFE offering – not competency based learning
- Two years – does have an end point (para-professional, e.g. ‘Robotic Technician’) and achievable part-time
- Can articulate – needs clear credit transfer and sound unambiguous advice – upfront

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