

ABORIGINAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

707. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Training centres led by Aboriginal people were an overwhelming success, so why does the Premier not look at that in detail and consider re-establishing them as effective training centres for Aboriginal people?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

Again, I am unaware of what the Leader of the Liberal Party is referring to, but I just remind him that we have more Aboriginal people in training, more Aboriginal people in apprenticeships and traineeships, more Aboriginal people enrolled in TAFE and more Aboriginal people employed. We have put a huge effort across government into these initiatives. We have the jobs and skills centres. We actually dropped the fees for everyone, including Aboriginal people, in our TAFE colleges because they were out of reach under the former government. The jobs and skills centres are there to assist everyone. I am unaware of what the member is referring to. I will have a look at it because I have a feeling that, as usual, he is misrepresenting.