



THE TRANSFORMER

NOVEMBER 2021

Welcome to the fifth edition of The Transformer - an update from the Smart Transformation Project.

Smart Transformation operates in Dysart and Moranbah and aims to future-proof our communities as we face the rapid technological changes being brought about by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (or 4IR for short).

While supported by BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA), Smart Transformation operates independently and is driven by the two towns' Smart Transformation Advisory Councils. Council members capture feedback and advice from the communities they call home, to direct resources and effort into projects important to local residents.

Careers Navigator role to drive 4IR skills at schools

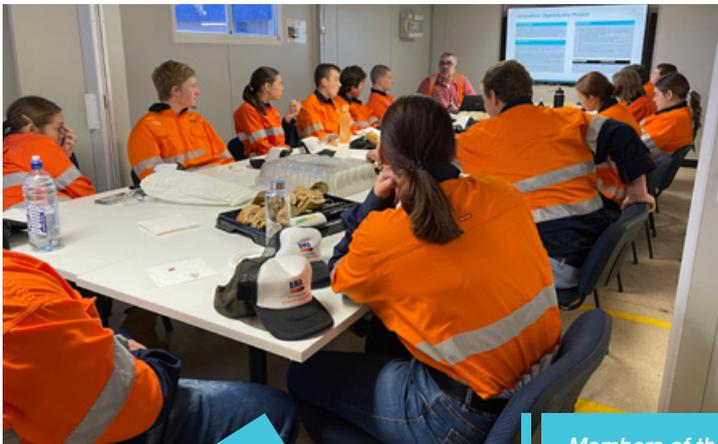
Smart Transformation is launching a new Youth 4IR Skills and Training Project designed to support local students access the jobs of the future.

The innovative Queensland Future Skills Partnership, funded by BMA, has committed to establish dedicated, full time career planning and advisory services for students and career seekers in the Isaac region.

Queensland Future Skills Partnership education lead (CQ University) Peter Heilbuth said specialist careers advice for jobs of the future needs to focus on the skills and qualifications required for new and emerging occupations and industries – and where the training for these new careers can be accessed.

“For example, growing automation within the mining industry is increasingly generating new careers and opportunities,” Peter said.

“This is a new world our young people are going into, compared to the one people of my generation grew up with, and we need to make sure they are equipped with the understanding and the skills to succeed in these globally competitive industries and occupations.”



The project which is supported by BMA, TAFE Queensland and CQ University Australia will focus on the further development of relationships between the schools and local industry and businesses, to support students' career and training aspirations.

STAC Project Lead Anthony Edwards said the Youth 4IR Skills and Training Project was designed to provide a “map” to the increasingly complex tertiary education pathways available to local students.

“Up to date knowledge of these pathways is what our local kids need, and what this project will deliver,” Anthony said.

Members of the Youth Advisory Council provided performance measures for the Youth 4IR Skills and Training Project, which have been incorporated into Memorandums of Understanding with the participating schools.

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Ag and Mining come together for an exciting future

From algae farms for food production, through to the use of robotics in resources, Smart Transformation's 4IR Agriculture & Mining Roundtable heard from sector experts on incredible and exciting future opportunities for the region.

Opened by Moranbah Smart Transformation Advisory Council member Brianna Baggow, the Roundtable showcased presentations from Central Queensland University, GW3, Queensland Resources Council, Central Highlands Development Corporation, Regional Development Australia and Robotics Australia Group.

By hearing the possibilities stemming from 4IR firsthand, attendees including local and state government representatives, business and community leaders – even students and teachers from Moranbah State High School were encouraged to aim high and embrace those opportunities.

"There was a real feeling of connection and collaboration in the room," Brianna said.

"I definitely think the innovation in the region is inspiring - I was sitting with the high school kids and thought 'the world is your oyster'."

→ Follow the link to access presentations from the 4IR Agriculture and Mining Roundtable. [CLICK HERE](#)



Attendees included BHP, local business people as well as representatives from local and state government.



Robotics Australia Group's Sharna Glover and Queensland Resources Council's Andrew Barger present on the innovations underway and planned for the resources sector.



STAC Moranbah member Brianna Baggow opens the Smart Transformation 4IR Ag/ Mining Roundtable in Moranbah.

“*I definitely think the innovation in the region is inspiring - I was sitting with the high school kids and thought 'the world is your oyster'*”

BRIANNA BAGGOW - STAC MORANBAH MEMBER





STAC member Liz Fox opens the Childcare workshop in Dysart.

Solutions sought for childcare challenges

Childcare sector stakeholders came together in two workshops hosted by Smart Transformation, to pursue solutions to service delivery in the region.

A report prepared earlier this year found the major issue for local childcare centres was the attraction and retention of qualified staff, with solutions to that problem potentially able to drive increased places in the centres.

A collaborative forward plan is now under development, after workshop participants prioritised the report's recommendations.

Local students apply for 2022 Youth Advisory Council

High school students from Dysart and Moranbah have completed their nominations to be part of the Smart Transformation Youth Advisory Council (YAC) in 2022.

The YAC is made up of students from Years 9 through 12, representing Dysart and Moranbah State High Schools, and provides a youth "voice" to Smart Transformation's projects and priorities.

In 2021, YAC members visited the World Science Festival in Brisbane, toured BMA's Goonyella Riverside Mine and prioritised projects for Smart Transformation – great experiences according to outgoing YAC member Izzy Turns from Moranbah State High School.

"I will be taking many ideas, knowledge and understanding about our future away from this experience, which I will pass on to others," Izzy said.

Nominations closed on 12 November, with successful candidates notified shortly.

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IZZY TURNS - YAC MEMBER

STAC Profile – Michelle Pole, Moranbah STAC

Showing her students the many opportunities available to them in the future workforce is a key focus for new Moranbah State High School principal Michelle Pole.

A thirty-two year veteran of Education Queensland, Michelle moved to Moranbah from Morayfield State High School some six months ago, with her two adult children Sam and Madison staying behind in Brisbane.

“I love Moranbah, love the community and love the people,” she said.

What has surprised her in the short time she has been in town is the many and varied career pathways on offer for local students.

“Coming out here I assumed there would be less pathways for kids, but nothing could be further from the truth,” Michelle said.

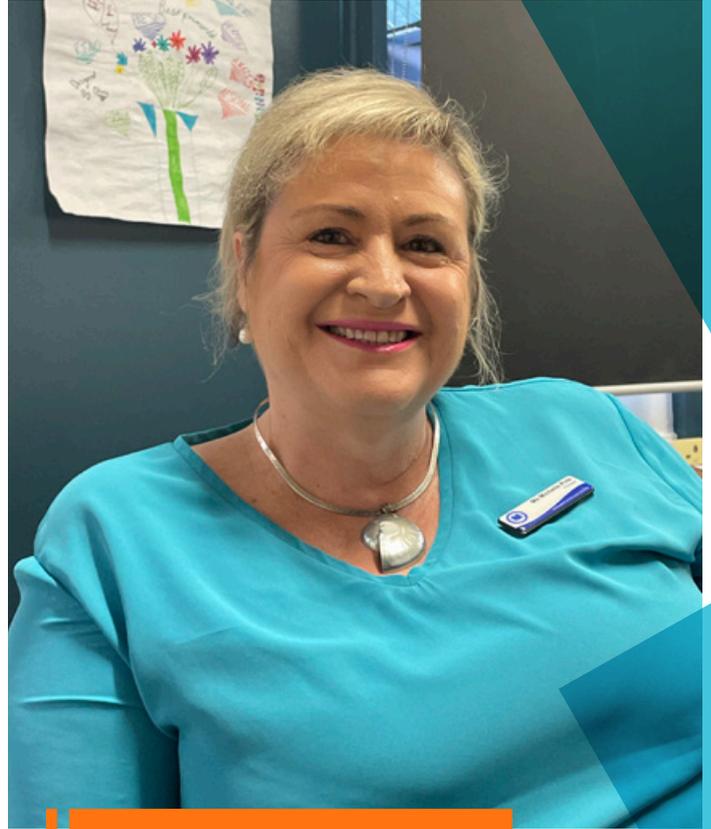
“This is the best school I’ve been to for opportunities for students – STEM options and links to industry - I’ve not seen it in any of the 17 other schools I’ve been in.

“It’s better than you would get in Mackay, better than Brisbane.”

Michelle joined the Moranbah Smart Transformation Advisory Council, hoping to build on those opportunities and increase local knowledge of them.

“We’ve got to ensure that everyone knows this, understands it and can take advantage of it,” she said.

“Sometimes the students don’t know what they don’t know, and we have to get the information out – to the students, to the parents and to the community.”



Michelle Pole, STAC Moranbah member



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Get involved in Smart Transformation

The Smart Transformation Project, now in its third phase, is a community initiative to shape our own future for ourselves. If you would like more information, please drop us a line at smarttransformation@outlook.com.

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