

TEACHER EDUCATION

1. **A35.** QUEENSLAND STATE COUNCIL

“That ICPA Qld Inc lobby the Minister for Education to provide funding to the Kelvin Grove Teacher Education Centre of Excellence – Rural and Remote (KGTECE) to allow for the expansion of the program to other Higher Education Institutions (HEI’s) across Queensland.”

Carried

Explanation: The KGTECE works to provide quality pre-service teachers to regional, rural and remote areas by facilitating their placements across these areas over a minimum of 12 months prior to completing their degree, in addition to educating them on the unique qualities of teaching in country Queensland. The current partnership with QUT and Griffith universities has seen the KGTECE place many pre-service teachers throughout rural Queensland with great success; in fact, the majority of these have received offers of employment before they even graduate. All too often, our small schools are staffed with graduate teachers who have no concept of what it means to be a part of a small community and teach in a multi-age classroom – the reality is that these teachers flounder and often move on with a negativity toward teaching rural and remote. The more prepared teachers are as to the realities of teaching rural, the more likely it is that they will embrace the opportunity and our students will reap the rewards. The KGTECE is focused on providing our schools with teachers who WANT to teach rural – this is a huge first step in our mind, and we believe that it is imperative for the program to continue and be expanded to other areas of the state.

2. **A36.** QUEENSLAND STATE COUNCIL

“That ICPA Qld Inc lobby the Minister for Education to continue to fund the operation of the Kelvin Grove Teacher Education Centre of Excellence – Rural and Remote (KGTECE).”

Carried

Explanation: The aim of Teacher Centres of Excellence has been to identify, recruit and develop high quality preservice teachers who could be placed in high priority locations and teaching areas, with a priority to rural and remote schools in Queensland. It has been brought to our attention that the Teacher Education Centres of Excellence are ceasing operation at the end of 2019. Whilst we were not consulted in the review conducted in 2018, and have personally received no notification of these closures, ICPA Qld Inc feel that the success of the KGTECE concerning attracting quality pre-service teachers to rural and remote areas of our state cannot be undervalued and we would request the Minister allow the continuation of this program. Families educating their children in country areas of Queensland are just as deserving of quality teachers as those in metropolitan areas, and the program conducted at KGTECE has provided many graduate teachers of a quality standard to our schools over the past few years. This is the only program that concentrates solely on educating preservice teachers on the unique qualities of teaching rural – a program that should be replicated, not removed.

3. **A37.** RICHMOND BRANCH

“That ICPA Qld Inc. thank Department of Education for programs like Beyond the Range Professional Experience Grant which financially support student teachers to complete their rural and remote practicum.”

Carried

Explanation: By supporting prospective teachers to undertake their professional requirements while living and working in remote areas, we achieve multifaceted benefits and flow on effects. Upon graduation, these student teachers will be more likely to take up rural and remote teaching positions as they have developed social networks and a greater understanding of isolated communities. We feel the flow-on benefits will surpass the outlay cost and we encourage further development in this area.

Branch Member Case Study

As a remote family with three students, we were delighted when our Governess was successful in receiving this grant as it has enabled her to continue studying while achieving her practicums.

The benefit for our family is that we have a superior educator in our remote classroom and thus have the curriculum content delivered by a passionate, educated, invested and committed person.