

Minister for Fair Trading
Minister for Citizenship
Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts

Virginia Judge MP



16 September 2009

REES GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS SMALL BUSINESS

Fair Trading Minister, Virginia Judge today announced \$645,000 worth of grants to support small business owners in the motor vehicle, home building and property service industries.

Ms Judge told the Budget Estimates Committee the funding would provide education, training and research opportunities for 19 organisations across the state.

“The New South Wales Government is investing in education, training and research to encourage innovation and best practice,” Ms Judge said.

“We want to protect jobs and maintain a skilled workforce.

“Improving industry standards will ultimately provide the best protection for consumers.”

Ms Judge said the funding would be divided across three sectors:

- Motor Vehicle Industry - \$61,500;
- Property Services Industry - \$300,000; and
- Home Building Industry - \$283,500.

“The grants will benefit a wide range of organisations including the Swimming Pool and Spa Association, the Automotive Training Board of New South Wales and the Australian Livestock and Property Association,” she said.

“The Property and Financial Services International Training Advisory Body will receive \$55,000 to help with the establishment of a support line for the property services industry.

“A \$50,000 grant will go to the Newcastle MBA Group Scheme to help with building industry apprenticeships.

“I am also pleased to announce that the Owners Corporation Network will get \$29,400 to produce a publication for strata owners called *The Essentials of Strata Living – What Everyone Should Know*.”

Ms Judge said the recipients were chosen because they demonstrated sound planning, a commitment to professionalism and positive outcomes for consumers.

“I commend them for their commitment to continuous improvement and excellent service delivery to consumers,” she said.

- **A full list of grants is attached.**

The **\$300,000 Property Services Grants Program:**

- **\$55,000** to Property and Financial Services ITAB for the Property Services Industry Information Support Line;
- **\$23,400** to the Australian Institute of Conveyancers NSW Division Ltd for its Continuing Education Professional Development Program;
- **\$25,424** to North Coast TAFE for additional Continuing Professional Development Options for All Practising Agents;
- **\$20,000** to the Australian Property Institute Incorporated's Continuing Professional Development Program for Valuers, Agents and other Related Property Professionals;
- **\$30,000** to the Real Estate Institute of NSW Ltd for its Real Estate Agency Compliance Audit and Training: Regional and Metropolitan Roadshow;
- **\$41,000** to the Institute of Strata Title Management for Governance Training for Owners Corporations, Executive Committees and Property Practitioners;
- **\$40,000** to the Australian Livestock and Property Agents Association for its NSW Professional Development & Education Program 2009-10;
- **\$29,400** to the Owners Corporation Network of Australia Inc for the production of *The Essentials of Strata Living - What Everyone Should Know*; and
- **\$8,800** to Property and Financial Services ITAB for the development of a Strata Management Licensing Implementation Guide.

The **\$100,000 Motor Vehicle Industry Grants Program:**

- **\$60,000** to the Automotive Training Board NSW for *Moving the Automotive Industry Forward*, a program aimed at:
 - Retaining those at the beginning of their automotive career and those who currently work within the industry;
 - Encouraging best practice and innovation through training and industry education; and
 - Encouraging the training and education of apprentices.
- **\$1,500** Strategic Community Assistance to Refugee Families (SCARF) *Getting Wheels: Education for Refugees as First Car Buyers*.

The **\$283,500 Home Building Grants Program:**

- **\$40,000** for the Swimming Pool & Spa Association of NSW Limited;
- **\$21,000** to the Home Building Business Centre;
- **\$15,000** to Builders CPD for Communication, Contracts, Dispute Resolution;
- **\$30,000** in two grants to the National Electrical and Communications Association NSW Chapter for guides on the Phase-out of Incandescent Lamps and New Wiring Rules;
- **\$80,000** in two grants to the Housing Industry Association Ltd Business Skills for *Trade Contractors - Everyone Wins* and *Monitoring your Business Cash Flow*;
- **\$27,500** to the Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney for the *Green Trade Skills* DVD for the Housing Industry;
- a **\$50,000** investment in apprenticeship programs run by the Newcastle Master Builders Association; and
- **\$20,000** to SED Consulting for *Building Strength in NSW Regional Builders*.