



Niall Blair

Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Regional Water
Minister for Trade and Industry

MEDIA RELEASE

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TOCAL COLLEGE 2018 STAR GRADUATES

Minister for Primary Industries, Niall Blair joined more than 160 excited and driven Tocal College students at their Graduation Ceremony at the Paterson campus today.

Mr Blair said it was inspiring to see so many young people with the right skills and a passion for primary industries poised to begin their careers.

“The graduates here today have chosen to join an exciting, sometimes challenging, but always rewarding sector – one that continues to grow in value and reach,” Mr Blair said.

“The gross value of production for NSW agriculture in the past financial year was \$15.4 billion, a 32% rise on the 2013-14 financial year.”

Mr Blair said it is imperative the capacity and productivity of the agricultural workforce continued to grow in order to meet the rising demand for NSW food and fibre.

“Tocal College, now in its 53rd year of operation, has a long history in this space,” Mr Blair said.

“We need to not only attract and train the next generation of agriculturalists, but also develop the existing workforce in rural industries to employ new technology and practices to drive innovation and growth.”

“The graduates here today are fine examples of the continuing evolution of Tocal as it moves with the times to meet new challenges in the agricultural sector and I congratulate all students on the career path they have chosen to this point.”

This year Tocal College produced more than 370 graduates across its youth and adult education programs and delivered a range of part qualifications and skills training to more than 3,000 people across NSW.

Tocal College provides a blend of agricultural training and practical experience for school leavers and other people interested in careers in agriculture.

If you are interested to learn more about the training Tocal College has to offer, please visit <https://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/>

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