

## **Barkly Street revitalisation press release**

BGT Jobs + Training are pleased to announce the revitalisation of the former Barkly Street campus of Ballarat Secondary College.

The Barkly Street precinct has been a hub for learning since 1862 and we are proud to become caretakers into the future in collaboration with state and local government, local industry, business and community groups.

We are excited about the opportunity to turn the Barkly St precinct into a state-of-the-art jobs and training centre to help young people gain employment and enhance career pathways.

The centre will offer a wide range of education, training and employment opportunities raising the profile of the vocational education and training sector and increasing regional productivity and economic prosperity.

The Ballarat community will continue to have access to the buildings and grounds, which hold significant cultural, environmental and historic value to the community. Spaces will be provided for a broad range of community growth, education, and wellbeing activities, strengthening community ties and social networking.

Recognising the rich heritage of the site, we will act to preserve the former Ballarat East Free Library constructed in 1867 and historic gardens and further develop the facility investing our own resources and looking for opportunities to jointly resource the refurbishment which will be undertaken in an environmentally sympathetic way.

We expect to be operating from Barkly Street from early 2019 with a period to make the facility ready for occupancy. We will provide you with updates during the transition.

### **About BGT**

BGT Jobs + Training was established in 1986 to provide education, training and employment services to the Ballarat community.

Our mission is to:

- meet the demand for a skilled employment pool for businesses in Ballarat by responding to the changing needs and dynamics of the local labour market
- deliver high quality, work-relevant training and education closely simulating the workplace environment
- deliver skills development and technical training in areas of industry demand
- strengthen career pathways and employment opportunities
- help to break cycles of disadvantage through inclusive models of learning

*This is a historic moment in the life of BGT as we fulfil our mission to “Create success stories through skills and jobs” matching high quality, work-relevant training with local industry needs.”* **Mark Schulz- Chairman of BGT Board of Directors**

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14 Hill St, Ballarat VIC 3350  
T 03 5333 8600 F 03 5333 3922  
Freecall 1800 643 593  
bgt.org.au

ABN: 73 288 998 195  
TOID 3683