

Partner Update

June 2016

Ganbina - Agents of change



"Ganbina graduates can look forward with pride and confidence, secure in the knowledge that their future is bright."

ANTHONY CAVANAGH, CEO, Ganbina

Ganbina on track to empower Indigenous equality

Ganbina is on track to reaching its two generational goal of empowering the Indigenous community in Shepparton to achieve social and economic equality in the region.

According to a new report by PwC's Indigenous Consulting (PIC), Ganbina will reach its 'tipping point' – the time when it will start to influence real change - by 2030.

"We are only a third of the way through our journey, but already, our first generation of Ganbina graduates are finishing school, completing further education or training and embarking on fulfilling career paths," said Ganbina CEO Anthony Cavanagh.

"These young Ganbina graduates will be some of the first people in their communities to break the cycle of long term generational unemployment and welfare dependency," he said.

"They are well on their way to becoming powerful Indigenous role models and leaders for the next generation. They are the new 'Agents of change' who will help their communities to change the status quo."

Mr Cavanagh said the Ganbina model is successful because it focuses on empowering young people to develop their full potential, gain real jobs and become financially independent.

"Ganbina's scholarship, education, employment, training and life skills programs, delivered from the formative ages of six to 25, are critical in helping young Indigenous people to develop the will and the means to create a better future for themselves, their children and their children's children," he said.

"We still have a long way to go, but if past performance is an indicator of future success, we are well on target to empowering our community to achieve social and economic equality in the region by 2045."

Bright futures for Ganbina participants

Success rates	Ganbina youth	Indigenous youth (national average)
Year 12 completion	100%	58.5% ¹
Engaged in post school education/training or employment	94%	40% ²

¹ Australian Government: Closing the Gap: Prime Minister's Report 2015.

² Australian Government: Australian Institute of Health & Welfare: Australia's welfare 2015.



Ganbina - a leader in its sector

The PIC Report: 'Ganbina - Agents of Change - Measuring the Value of Ganbina's programs 2015', found that compared to similar organisations¹ in the sector:

- **Ganbina has the highest retention rates - over 97%.**
- **Ganbina best achieves gender balance - 42% male & 58% female.**
- **Ganbina reaches the broadest age group - six to 25 year olds.**
- **Ganbina's cost per participant is about half the average spend.**

As an independent organisation, Ganbina does not seek government funding and relies solely on the support of corporate and philanthropic partners to carry out its work.

If you would like to know about Ganbina's programs, or if you would like a copy of the PIC Report, please contact Anthony Cavanagh on 0428 217 332.

¹ For the purposes of comparison, organisations were selected on the basis that their programs provide education, vocational and/or employment support for Indigenous youth and had a sufficient amount of publicly available data.

Bethany Collie, the daughter of a Gunditjmara woman and a Yorta Yorta man, was one of three Ganbina speakers at the launch of the PIC Report in Melbourne recently.

She is a Year 12 student at Shepparton Christian College and is undertaking a school based traineeship with ANZ and AFL SportsReady which will give her a Certificate III in Business Administration.

Bethany is also a member of Ganbina's Leadership Program and she has three siblings who are all enrolled on Ganbina's program.

"When I was in Year 7, I was a real rebel and I wanted to drop out of school the first chance I got in Year 10," she said. "But the things I learned through Ganbina helped me to grow up and understand that sticking in school is important. Now I'm in Year 12, I've grown to be a role model for others, encouraging younger people to stay on too. I certainly wouldn't want my little sister not to do Years 11 and 12.

"I love doing the Ganbina Leadership Program. We have lots of events that teach you how to be a leader and we go to Melbourne and Sydney to meet with

people from different industry sectors and training and education groups. Every year we do a big trip to other Indigenous groups to learn about their culture and share ours with them. So far I've been to Uluru and I've also been to New Zealand to meet with Maori leaders and people and learn more about the history of New Zealand.

"Being with Ganbina has made me want to pursue more in my future and make something of myself.

"Once I would have been happy to do an easy job - anything really - for the rest of my life. But Ganbina has given me the impetus to better myself and think about my future.

"I'm definitely thinking about university courses, and depending on my ATAR score in Year 12, I would like to do a degree in business and commerce."

The launch was attended by Natalie Hutchins, Victorian Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, representatives from the business and philanthropic sectors, and Ganbina partners.



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