

# News releases - Geoff Brock

## Young regional trainee recognised in local NAIDOC awards

July 7, 2016

A trainee employed with Alexandrina Council through the Regional Youth Traineeship Program has been recognised with a NAIDOC award.

Business Administration Officer Trainee Ashleigh Darrie has been awarded the *Ngarrindjeri Nation, Female Youth of the Year* award as part of NAIDOC week celebrations. Ashleigh received three nominations in this category, highlighting her academic growth and success, sporting and volunteering ventures, and her work with Council.

### Background

The Regional Youth Traineeship Program is a \$2 million Regional Development initiative through the Jobs Accelerator Fund, delivered for of the State Government by the Local Government Association.

57 trainees – aged between 17 and 24, living in the regions, and were unemployed or didn't have full-time work - are benefitting from tailored training and work plans. On completion of their two-year traineeship they'll be ready to take advantage of further employment opportunities. The program is designed to encourage regional councils to continue employing the trainees after the two funded years.

The Ngarrindjeri Nation awards are run annually, recognising young individuals who have stood out as role models for other youth and peers in whichever field they excel in.

### Quotes attributable to Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock

I warmly congratulate Ashleigh on her award, which is a tremendous recognition of her enthusiasm, commitment, and skills. It's young people like Ashleigh who are contributing to the energy and optimism of regional South Australia.

Her success illustrates the worth of supporting youth employment through initiatives like the Regional Youth Traineeship Program.

Strong regions mean a strong South Australia, and the Regional Youth Traineeship Program is a great example of the different levels of government working together to create vibrant, sustainable regional communities with a skilled workforce.

### Quotes attributable to Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Minister Kyam Maher

As well as Ashleigh, three other indigenous youth trainees have been employed through the Regional Youth Traineeship Program in the Yalata Community.

These three young people hold full-time positions as community service youth worker trainees, and during the course of the traineeships they'll also be studying towards a Certificate III in Community Services through the Aboriginal Access Centre at Ceduna TAFE.

NAIDOC week is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements and hard work of these young people.

### **Quotes attributable to LGA President Mayor Dave Burgess**

Trainees supported through the Regional Youth Traineeship Program are being supported to build their skills, knowledge and confidence for successful career opportunities in the future.

It's great to see Ashleigh, our Alexandrina Council trainee, recognised by her local community with this award.