



## Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

**Media Release**

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### **New Polytechnic another boost for education in Circular Head**

IN another boost to education in the Circular Head region, the establishment of a new Polytechnic will now allow students to continue to study locally post year 10.

This funding comes on top of the \$4.5m delivered to two projects in Circular Head under the Rudd Government's Trade Training Centre program, as announced in November, 2009.

The Polytechnic, to be set up in the next two years, will enable young people in Circular Head to study locally and then commence their working life locally, Mr Sidebottom said.

"This is fantastic news for the Circular Head region," Mr Sidebottom said.

"For many years I have heard stories from students and their parents about the problems associated with travelling to Burnie to continue their education.

Smithton is one of six rural areas to receive a new Polytechnic. The Federal Government has contributed \$6.5 million towards the project through the Smarter Schools National Partnership program, with the balance to be provided by the Tasmanian Government.

As announced in November 2009, the Circular Head Christian School will receive up to \$1.5m for a Trade Training Centre focussed on agriculture, aquaculture and horticulture, while the Tasmanian Polytechnic and Smithton High will receive up to \$3m for a new facility aimed at automotive, general construction, electrical and metal industries.

"I worked closely over a number of months with the Circular Head School community, the Circular Head Council and the State Government to get these projects off the ground.

"I am excited to see these facilities get off the ground to incorporate a distinct Circular Head flavour to meet the needs of the local district," he said.

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