



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Youth boost for Townsville salon**

Liberte Hair Owner, Fabian Morris could not be happier with TAFE Queensland North hairdressing student, Nicola Todd.

Mr Morris hired Miss Todd with the assistance of the State Government's Back to Work Youth Boost payment.

"An employer has to pay for everything for an apprentice hairdresser from tools to training, it's become a huge financial burden.

"The Youth Boost payment is the only reason I have been able to afford to take on a new apprentice," Mr Morris said.

The Youth Boost payment provides eligible employers with a \$20,000 Employer Support Payment if they hire a young unemployed person.

Mr Morris said that for some small businesses, employing an apprentice is a big stretch.

"You have to really commit to employing them and training them in your own time; that can be at times financially stressing, but the Youth Boost payment has taken that pressure off," he said.

Miss Todd, 17, is committed to her hairdressing career.

"My mum is a hairdresser and I've always watched her work and been inspired by her.

"I started hairdressing when I was 15 by entering into a school-based hairdressing apprenticeship," Miss Todd said.

Unfortunately, when Miss Todd graduated high school last year her school-based apprenticeship came to an end.

"My school-based apprenticeship contract ended in November and I was devastated until Fabian offered me a full-time apprenticeship position at Liberte Hair.

“It’s amazing working here; it’s a wonderful environment and I’m very happy,” Miss Todd said.

Mr Morris said Miss Todd was an ideal employee.

“Nicola is my fourth apprentice from TAFE Queensland North.

“The training the organisation provides is really great as it provides students with fundamentals for their entire hairdressing career.

“I really like how TAFE Queensland North structures its learning program as every apprentice goes through the same training; it’s very consistent and students leave with a great foundation skill set,” Mr Morris said.

Miss Todd said she is looking forward to studying at TAFE Queensland North.

“I will be studying for the next two years and I can’t wait to learn new things.

“I really enjoy the creative side of hairdressing; there are endless possibilities and I like making clients happy,” Miss Todd said.

TAFE Queensland North General Manager, Joann Pyne said the education and training provider is keen to work with employers and their apprentices.

“TAFE Queensland North can design training plans that are flexible to meet the needs of employers and their apprentices.

“TAFE Queensland North can train apprentices on campus, arrange workplace visits to monitor training and organise any additional learning support that may be required,” Ms Pyne said.

To find out more about studying with TAFE Queensland North visit the Pimlico campus, call 1300 656 959 or visit [www.tafenorth.edu.au](http://www.tafenorth.edu.au)

**Ends**

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