



Media Release

1 December, 2016

Indigenous teachers graduate

A new wave of regional and remote teacher and teacher-aides are about to graduate from RATEP, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education program.

50 people have successfully completed their studies at TAFE Queensland North and 30 of those students are expected to attend a special graduation party today.

TAFE Queensland North General Manager, Joann Pyne said RATEP is a wonderful initiative.

“The program aims to increase the number of registered indigenous teachers.

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are able to stay in their communities and study a Certificate III, IV or Diploma Education course.

“These studies also allow eligible students to gain credit towards a Bachelor of Education degree at James Cook University, saving them time and money,” she said.

Ms Pyne said graduates are coming from all over Queensland to attend the graduation ceremony at the TAFE Queensland North Cairns campus.

RATEP began in 1990 and since then, TAFE Queensland North has provided qualifications to over a thousand students.

RATEP is a joint initiative of TAFE Queensland North, the Department of Education and Training and James Cook University.

The media is invited to film, photograph and interview graduating students.

Where: TAFE Queensland North Cairns campus at The Queenslander. Please enter via the Gatton Street car park, refer to the attached map for directions.

When: Thursday, December 1. Students will be available for interviews at 1pm and the ceremony starts at 2pm.

For more information, please contact TAFE Queensland North Communications and Public Relations Officer Sarah Weir on 4042 2746 or 0408 746 747.

