

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2007

NEW TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Two locally owned and operated companies have joined forces to offer local high school students a fantastic opportunity to enter the tourism industry.

Vocational Training Australia (VTA) and The CaPTA Group have entered an agreement where students will be employed at one of CaPTA's operations whilst still at high school, and VTA will provide them with formal training.

Upon graduation, not only will the students have gained a wealth of experience via a traineeship, they will also be able to add the qualification of 'Certificate III in Tourism (Operations)' to their resumé.

VTA Director Julie Edwards and CaPTA Staff Excellence Manager Susan Benham said this innovative new program will benefit tourism in the Tropical North, as well as local students.

"We've had outstanding results in previous years with our school-based programs with many students being offered employment and continuing their studies after they have completed the program," Ms Edwards said.

"From white water rafting guides, to wildlife keeping and retail, the CaPTA Group has a much wider variety of career paths that students can pursue," Ms Benham said. "Our operations also cover a vast region, from Tully to Mossman, so students across the Tropical North will benefit."

A limited number of school-based traineeships will be offered. If you would like to attend the information evening on February 23rd please contact Kobe at VTA on 4051 5022. Bookings are essential.

VTA is locally owned and operated and provides accredited, nationally-recognised training in Business, Hospitality and Tourism throughout Australia. The CaPTA Group is locally owned and operated by the Woodward family of Cairns, consisting of Rainforestation Nature Park, Tropic Wings Coach Tours, RnR White Water Rafting, Rainforest Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary in Port Douglas, Cairns Wildlife Dome, Jungle Tours, and Australian Butterfly Sanctuary.

For more information, please contact Susan Benham from CaPTA on (07) 4041 9432 or 0413 385 793, or Julie Edwards from VTA on (07) 4051 5022.

