

PM, High Commissioner launch Y-Connect Guide

By Len Garae

PRIME MINISTER JOE NATUMAN and Australian High Commissioner, Jeremy Bruer have jointly launched the first-ever Vanuatu national youth services directory, the Y-Connect Guide at Nabanga Restaurant in

Port Vila last week. Developed by young people, for young people, the Y-Connect Guide aims to help youth across Vanuatu locate and access a wide range of youth services in health, education and employment.

Students studying a Certificate IV in Youth Work at

the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC), funded by the Australian Government, partnered with the Vanuatu National Youth Council and the Pacific Youth Council to develop the guide.

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APTC Country Manager Kath Gray, Australian High Commissioner Jeremy Bruer, Prime Minister of Vanuatu Joe Natuman, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock, Fisheries and Biosecurity, David Tosul and, President of National Youth Council, Vira Tavakalo, with representatives of the National Youth Council and APTC staff and students



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From front page

Australia and Vanuatu have worked together for many years to empower youth by providing opportunities for skills development and personal growth through APTC and the Australian Government funded Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Program.

APTC's Certificate IV in Youth Work aims to build the skills and knowledge of people working in the youth sector to support

young people to reach their full potential. Graduates go on to help shape youth in Vanuatu and the Pacific by working as youth and community workers, peer educators, health workers and mentors.

The Governments of Australia and Vanuatu work closely with other development partners to deliver the Vanuatu Education Support Program (VESP), designed to improve the quality of and access to education for ni-Vanuatu from

an early age.

Australia also supports Wan Smolbag Theatre in Port Vila, Santo and Pentecost and a range of sporting organisations in Vanuatu through the Australian Sports Outreach Program and Australian volunteers.

Through each of these programs and activities, the Australian Government aims to empower youth by improving opportunities to participate in the economic and social development of Vanuatu.

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