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Question- The Hon Paul Green- one of the final points you make in your submission is that the North Coast College of Marine Studies aims to establish in all thing marine to equip people with skills. How is that going? How can the committee assist with that?

On checking with the Principal of Maclean High School the focus of the Marine Studies course is now on aquaculture and training students in skills in this area and apparently it is going well. TAFE at Ballina also offer courses in operating boats, the school works with them with trainee's at times. In addition to the Clarence Valley Council has formed the Marine and Engineering cluster referred to in our submission to help the marine and engineering industry train their staff to service this industry by joint training.

The biggest help any Government can give schools or industry is to underpin trade training courses either through schools or TAFE and through subsidised training funds through Training Services NSW to underpin employee training for those already employed in the marine industry. Students who do trade training while at school with work experience are better equipped to enter the workforce on graduating if they want to head in the trade direction.