



VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN  
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

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Honourable Sarah Mitchell  
Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning  
via email

Dear Minister

### **Current NESA Curriculum Reform Timetable and Accreditation Decisions**

The Visual Arts and Design Educators Association NSW (VADEA) are extremely concerned by a recent correspondence sent to us from the Professional Teachers' Council NSW (PTC) President, Dr Denis Mootz, outlining NESA's apparent inaction, lack of transparency, and reluctance to engage in productive, genuine consultation in the NSW curriculum review. These are concerns that both the PTC and VADEA have had now for a significant period of time. To be clear, VADEA completely supports the position the PTC has made, as we too have observed the marginalisation of NSW professional associations throughout the curriculum reform process and are genuinely concerned by the secrecy surrounding much of the reform process. This lack of transparency and consultative decision making was also evident in the recent changes to the HSC as a consequence of COVID.

In addition, the current protracted state of accreditation is completely unacceptable. Many of our members have been unable to access subject-specific accredited training, which is coming up to 12 months now, and there is no apparent resolution to the situation that sees the PTC and all associated professional associations unable to provide the accredited quality professional development once enjoyed by their members. It should be noted that VADEA is the only subject-specific professional development provider for many of the Visual Arts and Design educators in NSW, and we have a long-established history of providing innovative and relevant accredited courses to our members. While we are still providing professional development events, many of our members advise us that their Principals will only approve accredited training.

VADEA is calling on the Minister to:

- Explain the secretive nature of the current NSW Curriculum Reform process
- Ensure a more respectful curriculum reform process that engages the PTC and associated professional associations
- Reinstate the PTC as a registered provider of accredited professional development for NSW educators

We also encourage you to meet with the PTC to work through these issues as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully

VADEA Executive