

The

Hairdressers Registration Board of Western Australia

Newsletter Issue Three - Fourth Quarter, 2009



ADVICE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Notification To Hairdressers – Renewal Of Registration

As renewal time is almost upon us, it is timely to update you on the government's proposal to deregulate the hairdressing industry in Western Australia which could see the winding up of the Hairdressers Registration Board.

As you may be aware, the Government's proposals need to be considered and approved by Parliament before they can take effect. As Parliament is yet to consider the proposal, hairdressers practising in an area covered by the *Hairdressers Registration Act 1946* (the Act) are still required to be registered. The Board is responsible for supervising the hairdressing industry and enforcing the Act until there are any

changes, so it is very much a "business as usual" approach to conducting the annual registration renewal program.

Invoices for the renewal of registrations for 2010 will be posted in early January. Hairdressers are required to pay their registration in January in the normal way.

Information and updates about progress of the Government's proposal will be posted on the Hairdressers Registration Board website, www.hrb.org.au and the Consumer Protection website, www.commerce.wa.gov.au (click on the 'Business' tab and then click on the 'Hairdressing industry deregulation' tab).

If you have any questions about your registration, or to update your contact details, please contact the Board on 9381 9966.

For information about the Government's proposal for the hairdressing industry, please contact the Consumer Protection Call Centre on 1300 30 40 54.



Office Hours Over Christmas

The board and staff would like to wish you all a very merry christmas and a happy new year.

Office hours during Christmas:

The HRB office will be closed from Friday 25th December 2009 to Sunday 10th January 2010. The office will reopen from Monday 11th January 2010.

Hair Straightening

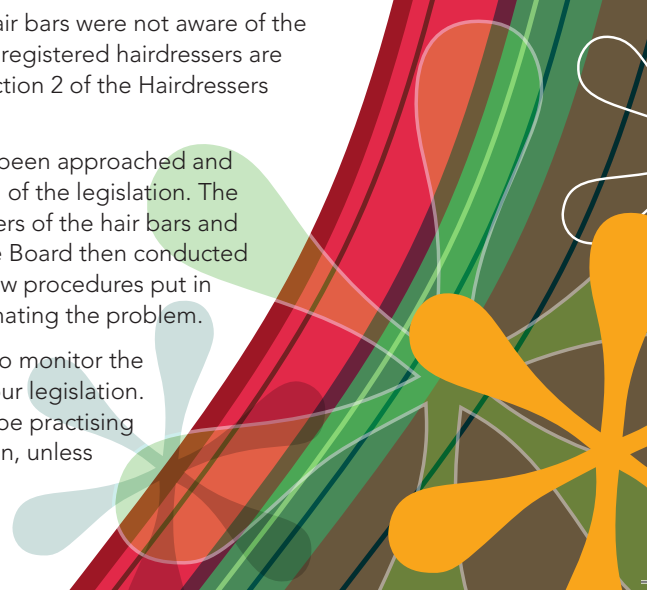
In June 2009 the Board was contacted by a number of hairdressing salons that reported a kiosk (hair bar) in a major shopping centre that was trading in the sale of hair straighteners and providing styling of hair to their clientele.

Since June the Board has located a further 8 hair bars situated in a number of the major shopping centres.

It transpired that the owners of the hair bars were not aware of the legislation which prescribes that only registered hairdressers are allowed to style hair as defined in Section 2 of the Hairdressers Registration Act 1946.

The employees of the hair bars have been approached and are now aware that they are in breach of the legislation. The Board called a meeting with the owners of the hair bars and explained the legislation to them, the Board then conducted a follow up meeting regarding the new procedures put in place by the owners to assist in eliminating the problem.

The Board's inspectors will continue to monitor the hair bars to ensure compliance with our legislation. If any of the employees are found to be practising the Board will seek to take legal action, unless they are registered hairdressers.



Recognition of Prior Learning

Experienced and skilled but without a qualification?

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is one of the best ways for experienced people in the hairdressing industry to have their skills and knowledge assessed to gain a formal qualification.

For 25-year-old Robert Glencross RPL has helped him fast track his dream of one day owning his own business.

Since starting work as a wall and ceiling liner for his brother when he left school seven years ago, Robert has been passionate about the building industry. He realised he would love to become a registered builder and one day own his own business.

Knowing the importance of a qualification to build his reputation and start his own company, Robert looked into getting his skills formally recognised. He discovered it would be quicker and cheaper for him to get a Certificate III in Wall and Ceiling Lining qualification through RPL.

"I came across RPL when I was looking for courses on the internet and it sounded like the perfect solution for me," said Robert.

"If I could demonstrate my experience I would save time and money by not having to study the full qualification at TAFE, and when time off means foregoing an income, it seemed silly not to do it."

Swan TAFE assigned an RPL assessor to Robert to determine how much of the qualification he could get through recognition and how much further training he would need to do.

"The assessor gauged my experience by watching me on the job and through photographs I gave him of work I had done," said Robert.

"In the end I only had to go to TAFE classes to complete three units, which was a lot less than what I would have done if I hadn't used RPL."

Robert is now completing a Diploma of Building and Construction part-time and thanks to RPL has fast tracked his dream of one day owning his own business.

"I would definitely recommend RPL to anyone who has experience and no formal qualifications," said Robert.

"Having that piece of paper opens up so many doors and RPL makes it so much easier to get."

To find out more about RPL contact the Career Centre:

Phone **13 23 98** Web **www.trainingwa.wa.gov.au/careercentre**

2010 Registration Invoices

Just a reminder to all hairdressers that your registration fees are payable and due by the **31 January 2010**. Invoices will be sent out to you in early January 2010. Any queries regarding payment or changes to your registration please contact the office on 9381 9966.

WARNING: Hair Extensions Performed By Unqualified & Unregistered People

The Board has seen a considerable increase in the number of complaints received from consumers regarding hair extensions. Predominately the complaints relate to unqualified and unregistered people using inferior hair extensions, unreliable attachment techniques and in a number of cases, incorrect application techniques that have led to hair breakage and traction alopecia.

Often the people supplying the products and subsequently attaching the extensions are unqualified and unregistered. Not unlike the hair bars outlined on page 1 of the newsletter, this practice is putting consumers at risk and can potentially cause prolonged side effects and ongoing scalp problems.

The Board suggests that hairdressers assist in educating their clients by discussing the importance of using only qualified, registered hairdressers.

The HRB website (www.hrb.org.au) has the public register which enables hairdressers, salon owners and consumers to check whether a hairdresser is qualified to practice and registered with the Board.