



**EMBARGOED UNTIL 6.00AM WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST 2011**

## **KICK START YOUR CAREER WITH A NORTHPARKES MINES' INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP!**

**Tuesday 16 August 2011**

Northparkes Mines (Northparkes) is urging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to kick start a career in the mining industry by applying for a Technical or Non-Technical 2011 Northparkes Mines Industry Aligned Indigenous Scholarship (NIAIS).

"Through our Indigenous Scholarship Program, Northparkes is providing support and encouragement to regional high school students of Aboriginal heritage looking towards entering university," Managing Director, Craig Stegman said today.

The scholarships will be offered to Indigenous students commencing tertiary study [at an agreed University] in a discipline aligned to the mining industry.

"The NPM Non-Technical Indigenous Scholarship is a \$5,000 per year fund provided to the successful scholarship student planning on studying one of the following subjects; Information Technology, Accounting, Human Resources or Occupational Health and Safety.

"The Technical Indigenous Scholarship is a \$10,000 per year fund provided to the successful scholarship student looking to study Mining, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, Metallurgy or Geoscience.

"Each vacation period, the two scholarship students will have the opportunity to work at Northparkes within their chosen area of study, gaining invaluable skills and experience.

"Northparkes is committed to training and developing our local home-grown talent to become our future business and industry leaders," Craig Stegman said.

"The mining industry is one of the world's most technologically advanced industries and the transferable skills that will be developed through our indigenous scholarship program will allow graduates to work anywhere in the world they choose", Craig Stegman said.

The scholarship program will be managed by the Northparkes Mines People and Capability Development department.

"The Indigenous Scholarship Program is a pipeline not only into Northparkes Mines, Australia's first underground block cave mine and one that remains an underground mining centre of excellence, but into the broader Rio Tinto group," Northparkes People and Capability Development Manager, Adele Bintley said.

"We look forward to receiving applications for the Indigenous Scholarship Program from our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who are passionate about a future career in the mining industry," said Ms Bintley.

For to gain further information or to apply for an Indigenous Technical or Non-Technical Scholarship, go to the Northparkes Mines - 2011 Indigenous Scholarships website: <http://www.northparkesiss.com/> or find us on Facebook - (Northparkes Indigenous Scholarship page). .

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