22 November 2010

Young Aboriginal leaders meet in Sydney

Young Aboriginal people from throughout the State are meeting in Sydney to focus on the role of education and the transition from school to work.

The two-day Young Aboriginal People’s Regional Roundtable State Conference will see about 60 leaders work through strategies to help close the gap.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Paul Lynch met the young leaders today to listen to their thoughts and ideas.

“There is a great opportunity for me to meet with future leaders of Aboriginal communities” Mr Lynch said.

“The NSW Government understands the best way to achieve outcomes on the ground is by working in partnership with Aboriginal people,” he said.

Presenters include representatives from the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, NSW Department of Education and Training, National Union of Students, Purrimaibahn Aboriginal Education and Training Unit, TAFE NSW.

National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples National Executive Co-Chair Sam Jeffries will also meet with the young men and women.

“These young leaders, who are enthusiastic representatives of their communities, will gain a great deal from these key speakers,” Mr Lynch said.

Of the estimated 148,000 Aboriginal people living in NSW, 57 percent are aged 24 or younger and 83 percent are 44 or younger.