



MEDIA RELEASE

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50% of Mid West youth looking forward to a future in mining

A survey of high school students in Mid West has revealed that almost 50% are keen to pursue a career in the resources industry.

The survey was conducted by Mission Australia during the recent Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance (GIOA) Community, Careers & Training Expo. The Expo was a major success in informing a future workforce of the opportunities that exist within the iron ore industry and the Midwest region.

According to Mission Australia Geraldton's Business Development Manager, Adrian Donovan, nearly 300 students completed the survey, which was designed to outline potential career choices of young people in the region.

"Out of 297 completed surveys, 148 indicated an interest in working in the resources industry in a variety of different fields, ranging from environmental science to catering," he explained.

The survey was commissioned by the GIOA to examine future opportunities for local employment.

Deputy Chairman Rob Jefferies said the Expo provided an ideal forum to gauge interest in mining careers.

"The survey conducted by Mission Australia gave us an independent insight into how many young people in the Mid West would be looking at a future in the resources industry," Rob said.

"The results are very encouraging with almost half of the students' surveyed seeking work in the industry."

"Alliance members are keen to source their future workforce locally, where the appropriate skills exist, so to see that students are considering mining in their career path is good news – both for the sustainability of local communities and the iron ore industry."

The survey indicated the most popular fields of interest are mechanics, engineering and administration.

The students surveyed came from six different high schools across the Mid West, as far afield as Meekatharra, with the majority in Years 10, 11 and 12.

GIOA Chairman Clive Brown will be speaking at the upcoming Midwest Resources Forum on Wednesday 27 August.

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About the Alliance:

The Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance (Alliance) has a membership of eight iron ore mining companies which are at various stages of exploration and development of mines in the Mid West. These companies are:

- Atlas Iron Limited (ASX:AGO)
- Asia Iron Limited
- Crosslands Resources Ltd (ASX: MMX)
- Gindalbie Metals Ltd (ASX: GBG)
- Golden West Resources Limited (ASX: GWR)
- Midwest Corporation Limited (ASX:MIS)
- Mount Gibson Iron Limited (ASX:MGX)
- Royal Resources Limited (ROY)

Further details of the companies and their projects is available on the Alliance's website at www.gioa.com.au.