

MEDIA RELEASE

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Mining Industry Invests in the Region's Future

\$13,000 in mining scholarships has been awarded to eighteen Year 11 and 12 students from schools in Orange and surrounding areas. The presentation ceremony was held at Orange Agricultural Institute Training Centre on Friday April 27.

The scholarships, part of the Minerals Education Bursary Scheme (MEBS), are funded by Newcrest Mining's Cadia Valley Operations and the NSW Minerals Council on an annual basis.

Eight Year 12 students were each presented with \$1,000 MEBS scholarships and ten Year 11 students received \$500 each. The scholarship winners are:

Year 12:

Joshua Adamson (Canobolas Rural High), Michael Price, Hayley Coles, Lucas Bennetts and Thomas West (James Sheahan Catholic High), Christopher Lavin (Kinross Wolaroi), Jacob Lockley (St Stanislaus') and Nathan Milham (Orange High).

Year 11:

Ryan Platt (Blayney High), James Agustin (Canowindra High), Emma Pryke, Samuel Braz, Matt Ryan and Allison Clark (James Sheahan Catholic High), William Naude (Orange Christian School), Mitchell Lanser (Orange High), McLeod McKenzie and Daniel Floyd (St Stanislaus').

NSW Minerals Council CEO, Dr Nikki Williams, congratulated the students and said she was confident that their bursaries would assist them to a successful career in mining.

"The minerals industry is committed to assisting young people find and achieve their career and educational goals in minerals related fields," Dr Williams said.

Tony McPaul, General Manager of Cadia Valley Operations said the scheme was another example of Cadia Valley Operations' commitment to investing in the future of the local community.

"Cadia Valley Operations has demonstrated a long term commitment to development of young people in the region and the creation of career opportunities for local people. The MEBS scheme compliments our own individual initiatives, such as our Apprenticeship, Vacation and Graduate Programs and our institution of the Orange Learning for Life Program.," he said.

MEBS winners who complete the first year of a mining-related undergraduate course within 12 months of completing high school will receive an extra \$2,000, plus a mining industry mentor, to provide careers and educational advice during their studies.

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