

Centre for Excellence in Mining



The Goldfields and the Pilbara are the epicentres of Australian mining and the perfect location to train our next generation of industry leaders. Our international 'Centre for Excellence in Mining' will be administered by Curtin with opportunities for collaboration with other universities into the future.

Our Commitments

The Nationals commit \$150 million over five years to transform WASM into an international Centre for Excellence in Mining and expand into the Pilbara.

Goldfields	
Executive Education Program	\$5 million
Research and Innovation Fund	\$50 million
Test Mine and Processing Plant	\$45 million
North West	
Northern Partnership Hub	\$10 million
Industry Sector Initiatives	\$40 million

Background

The Nationals WA believe Western Australian mining is in a good position. WA was built on the back of the gold industry, we are the world's largest exporter of iron ore and have significant oil and gas deposits, making us perfectly placed to deliver world-class education in mining.

As technology advances and automation increases, The Nationals WA want to ensure Western Australians have the best possible preparation and training to secure employment in the new mining sector. Without appropriate on-site education, the potential for Western Australians to access these jobs is under threat.

Funded by our fair plan to increase the Special Lease Rental in legacy State Agreements from 25c to \$5 per tonne, The Nationals will co-invest with industry and the academic community to transform WASM in Kalgoorlie into an international 'Centre for Excellence in Mining' and expand into the Pilbara.

This project will build facilities in the Goldfields and Pilbara, including a working mine, to allow Western Australian students to gain a world-class education.

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Goldfields

Executive Education Program

The development of an Executive Education Program at WASM will provide industry focussed postgraduate and executive education to mining and corporate professionals. The graduate school would provide short residential courses for senior mining executives, including professional education in mine operations, environment, safety, financing, investor marketing and the overall business of mining.

The Nationals commit \$5 million to develop an Executive Education Program at WASM.

Research and Innovation Fund

Investment into research and development is essential for WA mining to remain at the forefront of the world's resources sector. This investment will support a scholarship fund to attract students to the mining industry and also provide research grants through the Minerals Research Institute of WA.

The Nationals commit \$50 million to developing a Research and Innovation Fund

Test Mine and Processing Plant

A collaborative project will see development of a research scale processing plant and a test mine that will provide state of the art facilities, purpose built and jointly used by the TAFE, WA School of Mines, CRC ORE and the WA mining industry. This will include small scale operators such as prospectors and a range of collaborators, both nationally and internationally.

Construction of a gold/base metals processing plant and an iron ore test crusher/materials handler in the Kalgoorlie Educational Precinct will support educational programs for people wanting to articulate into undergraduate metallurgy courses, and executive training.

The Nationals WA commit \$45 million to a test mine and processing plant in the Goldfields.

North West

Northern Partnership Hub

The Northern Partnership Hub (NPH) will be a new facility that provides a staging point in the Pilbara to link research, education and innovation from major partners in Australia and globally. This facility would be the focus for visiting researchers and PhD students with expertise relevant to the North West, and foster collaborative activities between universities, industry and small to medium enterprises.

The NPH will allow the State's resources industry access to the current capability offered by the WA School of Mines. These capabilities will include development of new research solutions and provision of training in the region. Areas of knowledge transfer will include mining optimisation, executive education, industry transformation and mining sustainability, environmental rehabilitation and community impact.

The Nationals WA commit \$10 million to the development of a Northern Partnership Hub to develop research, education and innovation in the Pilbara.

Industry Sector Initiatives

The Nationals and WASM are both committed to a State-wide strategy to support WA's resources industry. WASM will use the Northern Hub as a focus for knowledge transfer and capacity building in the resources sector. WA's universities have significant activities and investment aligned to agriculture and oil and gas that will be enhanced through the NPH.

The oil and gas industry will benefit from connections to the Curtin-Aberdeen University partnership and the development of the joint Curtin-Aberdeen Global Centre for Energy Research.

The northern agriculture focus will help to deliver pastoral rangeland regeneration and productivity improvement through transfer of knowledge in areas including remote operations, automation, supply chain and marketing logistics and ultimately digitisations of northern agriculture.

The Nationals WA commit \$40 million to support Industry Sector Initiatives in the North West in the development of a Northern Partnership Hub for mining and agricultural sector education.

The Nationals commit \$150 million over five years to transform WASM into an international Centre for Excellence in Mining and expand into the Pilbara.

The Nationals WA welcome your feedback on this policy:

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THE NATIONALS for Regional WA