**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Small Indigenous Technology Training Organisation providing Deadly Diversity solutions.**

***How one Indigenous-owned Training Organisation, Goanna Education, is looking to Industry Engagement, Professional Partnerships and a unique Bootcamp model to build key Digital Skills fast!***

**5th-9th July:** This week, during NAIDOC week**,** Goanna Education launches its groundbreaking Front End Web Development and Cloud Architecture Bootcamp in partnership with the Australian Computer Society (ACS). The support from industry heavyweights Atlassian and Avanade, and the partnership with the ACS makes this a unique offering in the tech education market and provides financial support to students and direct pathways into long-term employment.

Goanna Education is an Indigenous-owned education business that is focused on closing the digital skills gap for diverse groups including Indigenous people, women, recent migrants and others that have missed out on the skills needed to find work in the digital economy. Goanna Education is actively working towards closing the digital gap by creating innovative education solutions that lead to real jobs with some of Australia’s most forward-thinking digital employers.

Everywhere you look at the moment digital reskilling and upskilling is being talked about. Even without the amplifying effects of Covid-19, every large consultancy has written reports on the global shortage of skilled technical talent and the inadequacy of traditional education mechanisms to solve the problem. Given the opportunity to participate, Goanna believes passionately that everyone can thrive in the digital world and take their place in the economy of the future.

The short, intensive, practical Bootcamp model has been shown to work well in rapid tech upskilling. Goanna Education is one of the few organisations that have looked to truly innovate in this hybrid accredited & bootcamp space.

Bootcamps are not new. They were introduced in the USA around 10 years ago to help fill the demand for software engineers in Silicon Valley. What is new is the evolution of Bootcamps into the accredited education space, providing up to the minute, dynamic, industry-relevant content in addition to a well-understood qualification such as a Diploma, Certificate IV or Certificate III.

Previously, education providers have found it difficult to balance the education compliance required whilst staying current and relevant with the demands of the fast-moving tech industry. Goanna Education has solved these competing problems by partnering with the ACS to offer a Nationally Recognised Training Program (ICT50220 Diploma of Information Technology) under ACS’s RTO Code #40184 and by locking in hugely relevant industry engagement with scholarships, financial support for students, meaningful internships, on-the-job training and genuine career prospects from Atlassian and Avanade.

Bootcamps are definitely not all created equal. Goanna Education believes in delivering Bootcamps that deliver the best results. This includes small class sizes, live training by industry experienced trainers, immediate feedback to students and huge amounts of hands-on practical training.

This NAIDOC week it is critical to reflect on what it means to genuinely achieve reconciliation and close the gap. Reducing the digital divide that exists between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians is a significant piece of the puzzle. Atlassian is working with Goanna Education to offer 5 Indigenous candidates a 100% scholarship for the Bootcamp (worth $13,000 each), a weekly stipend to help the student support themselves during the intensive program and a paid 3-month internship at Atlassian at the end of the study period.

**About Goanna Education (https://goanna.edu.au/)**

Goanna Education is one of the very few Indigenous owned Technology Training Organisations. It is a fully owned subsidiary of Goanna Solutions Pty Ltd (https://goannasolutions.com/). Goanna Education has been operating for 12 months and has achieved a great deal in that time include:

* Successfully launched the Amazon Web Services re/Start cloud program in Australia
* Been selected as one of three initial providers to work with the Digital Skills Organisation on the Train 100 Data Analysts project
* Worked with Accenture to deliver and hone an Indigenous cohort of the DSO Data Analytics program
* Been selected as a provider for the Victorian Government Digital Skills Panel,
* Run a Web Development Bootcamp with UST Global and
* Been nominated for Best Technology for Community Impact Award – Best Private Sector and the Not for Profit Technology Awards.

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