



THE HON CHRISTOPHER PYNE MP
MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE
LEADER OF THE HOUSE
MEMBER FOR STURT

Mr Larry Spry
President
DATTA - Australia
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MC15-006350

Dear Mr Spry,

Thank you for your email of 9 December 2015 congratulating the Australian Government on the new National Innovation and Science Agenda and particularly the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) literacy and related skills initiatives.

Since the Prime Minister and I announced the National Innovation and Science Agenda on the 7 December 2015, we have been encouraged by the overwhelmingly positive response to the Agenda. I appreciate the Design and Technology Teachers Association – Australia's (DATTA) support.

Maths, science and technology teachers in schools and higher education will play a key role in ensuring the Agenda initiative of inspiring children to take up and continue STEM studies is a success. With an estimated 75 per cent of jobs in the fastest growing industries requiring STEM-skills workers, ensuring students have the skills to equip them for the workforce of the 21st century is critical to maximising Australia's productivity and ensuring economic and social wellbeing.

The Agenda is also providing additional support and encouragement to young Australian students in international competitions, developing digital material including learning apps and mathematics resources, and expanding the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science as well as citizen science initiative through Inspiring Australia.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me about the Agenda. I am appreciative of DATTA's support and interest in the implementation of the Agenda. In relation to your request for DATTA executive to meet with me or my advisors, I encourage you, in the first instance, to contact my office on (02) 6277 7070 to discuss the matters you have raised.

Yours sincerely


Christopher Pyne MP