ATTENDEES:
Mandy Penton, Kangan Batman TAFE  
Wendy Wall, Gordon Institute of TAFE  
James Stafford, Boxhill Institute of TAFE

WHAT IS THE TEXTILE DESIGN SPECIALIST CENTRE?
A specialist centre run by RMIT’s School of Fashion & Textiles providing specialist training to industry in a number of ways i.e. Research, Accredited, Non Accredited, Online and Short Courses and Customised programs.

PURPOSE OF MEETING:
To seek feedback on whether the Textile Design Specialist Centre should continue and if so, what would you like to see the centre do or what direction and role should the Centre take?

BULLET POINTS TAKEN AT MEETING

- “Community of Practice” whereby all TAFE Industry staff get together on a monthly or quarterly basis to discuss emerging issues in the TCF Industry. “The Community of Practice” could fall under the “Textile Design & Specialist Centre” and relieve Gordon of this role encouraging TAFE’s to work together.
- The Textile Design & Specialist Centre to provide specialist training (CAD Design) for 2-3 people in an organisation who can then take on specialised skills and implement into their TAFE/Company.
- The Textile Design & Specialist Centre being an avenue for students to further study a selected area for a minimum charge.
- The Textile Design & Specialist Centre being first point of contact for Industry seeking Training
- The Textile Specialist Centre being a source of information for all stakeholders interested in TCF education and training. Which could include TCF assisting companies develop long term training and transition plans and a database for Sessional employment opportunities
- Developing Tool boxes that could possibly be marketed nationally
  - Broker for common learning materials (Sold nationally as AQTF compliance material) i.e. common learning materials i.e. weekly planners/module assessments etc
  - Standard RPL template
- A staff member from one of the TAFE’s to be seconded to the Textile Design & Specialist Centre
- Individual TAFE’s being able to submit proposal for project funding under the Textile Design & Specialist Centre umbrella.
- The Textile Specialist & Design Centre conducting Research i.e. “the gap between Industry and shortages of trained machinist”
- The Textile Specialist & Design Centre sponsoring staff to undertake Graduate Certificate, Post Graduate or Masters Programs.
- The Textile Specialist & Design Centre offering professional development for TAFE Staff. This could include TCF oriented training.
• The Textile Design & Specialist Centre needs to provide high standard and 'correct training' which can be applied to Industry because if training isn’t ‘correct’ and of high standard then Industry will not engage in training.
• Marketing: The need to change the culture about achieving a TAFE qualification and not being able to transform skills into the workplace
• The Textile Design & Specialist Centre and TAFE’s working together as a consortium
• Market Research aimed at developing a better understanding of Industry and campus student needs would be a useful focus for the Centre