

NPL STRENGTHENS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AT LATC WITH LEARNING RESOURCES

Coinciding with PNG's 50th Independence Anniversary, New Porgera Limited (NPL) strengthened its commitment to local skills development by donating approximately over K33,000 worth of essential equipment and technology to the Laiagam Appropriate Technology Centre (LATC) in Lagaip District, Enga.

The donation included a set of new and used motor vehicle components for practical training, which included an Engine Assembly, Transmission Assembly, Rear Propeller Shaft, Clutch Pressure Plate, Clutch Friction Plate, Flywheel, Starter Motor, Alternator, Fuel Pump, Injector Assembly, Front Differential Assembly, and Rear Differential Assembly.

The donation was made possible through NPL's Mobile Maintenance and Fixed Plant Maintenance departments, while NPL's Information Technology & Communications department donated ten full sets of new and refurbished computers, equipped with monitors, keyboards, mice, and office software licenses.

The learning resources were delivered on 12 September 2025 by NPL's Community and Social Responsibility (CSR) team on behalf of NPL, and were warmly received by LATC staff, students, and community members.

LATC Manageress, Jennifer Simon, while thanking the company on behalf of the centre, acknowledged the long-standing support from the Porgera mine.

"In the past, the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV) had supported LATC with job training for students, infrastructure maintenance through the Tax Credit Scheme, and donations of computers, generator, engines, welding machines, and other tools and equipment.

We appreciate NPL for continuing this relationship."

Representing NPL, Acting CSR Manager, Meck Minnala, encouraged young people to take advantage of the training opportunities available at LATC.

"About 80% of jobs at the Porgera mine require technical expertise - whether tradespeople or graduates from institutions like LATC.

By enrolling in these courses, students are preparing not only for potential roles at the mine but also gaining life-long skills that will support them in many other fields."

Mr. Minnala thanked the community for caring for the learning centre and encouraged them to continue looking after NPL's properties.

LATC offers conventional certificate programs in Information Technology, Motor Vehicle Mechanic and Welding and Metal Fabrication.

This year, the centre was recognised by the National Apprenticeship and Trade Testing Board (NATTB) to deliver National Certificate 1 qualification.

With over 200 students graduating annually, many complete industrial training at the Porgera mine, equipping them with practical skills and experience to succeed in their careers.

This visit marked NPL's second engagement with LATC this year.

NPL views support to education and training institutions as a vital part of its social responsibility. By helping build pathways for lifelong learning and life skills development, the company contributes to the broader national vision, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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Picture	Caption
	The donated computers are displayed as NPL team members, LATC staff, students, and community members proudly stand together to mark the donation.



NPL's Acting CSR Manager, Meck Minnala, addresses attendees during the donation handover at LATC.



The truck carrying the motor vehicle components for donation at LATC.



NPL's Acting CSR Manager, Meck Minnala (right) and his team seated on stage alongside other guests at LATC.