

Grant keeps program alive

A PROGRAM that partners Geelong companies with Deakin University researchers to drive innovation is set to continue until the end of next July.

A \$185,000 State Government grant will extend the Geelong Manufacturing Council's Industry Innovation Program.

Lara MP John Eren said the program had initiated 86 projects since 2011.

"The Industry Innovation Program has ... led to innovative ideas for the region's manufacturers. These are the ideas we need to advance the sector and create jobs," Mr Eren said.

For example, the program helped the IXL Group work with Deakin to explore the feasibility of producing a six star energy-rated heater.