



ITENZ

Independent Tertiary Education
New Zealand

November 2022

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Message from the Chair



Welcome to the last newsletter of the year.

What a year it's been, with Covid finally taking a backstage to everyday life and our border reopening, allowing international students back into the country.

As a sector we have again been at the forefront of change with the Code of Practice now covering domestic students, the UFS taking shape and the Strategic Component funding being finally implemented, albeit with many missing out. Now we also have the Export Education Levy being reinstated despite all submissions that opposed to it. Just another compliance cost that will affect the ability of international providers to market offshore.

2023 will be difficult year for many and again the ITENZ board will be there for you lobbying and advocating on your behalf.

On a positive front ,the Government agencies have committed to reviewing all compliance regulations associated with our sector and Terms of Reference are being drawn up to guide the process and help through the mire of compliance regulations within the PTE sector.

Youth Guarantee funding increases are also a highlight and will keep foundation providers in the market, as many were on the verge of opting out of this work.

Thank you all for your support and for attending a great conference in Auckland. Feedback was great.

We also wish to thank Wayne, our CE, for all the work he has carried out on behalf of members in 2022. Wayne has been at the forefront of all meetings, workshops and zoom meetings over the year and recently presented at the CATE Conference speaking about PTE's and our place within RoVE and our strengths in the tertiary education system. I attended the conference and was proud of the way our sector was professionally represented. Congratulations Wayne!

The Board and I hope that you do find time to wind down and relax and we wish you all a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year".

ITENZ activity 2022

2022 has been a busy year for everyone. For ITENZ, it has meant continuing our roles of advocating on your behalf, representing the sector, providing support, offering PD, and facilitating networking and engagement opportunities. Below is a list of some of the things we have done in 2022.

- **Met weekly with MoE during covid** to discuss member concerns and understand and influence MoE policy
 - Met with the **Minister of Education four times** and with the **Minister of Immigration once** to advance members' interests
 - Met with **Opposition Education Spokesperson twice**
 - Achieved **positive funding changes** in **Youth Guarantee** and **zero fees funding policy** after extensive lobbying
 - **Initiated work** between government agencies on **reducing PTE compliance loads**
 - **Advocated** on behalf of members through Peak Body meetings and directly with **TEC, NZQA, INZ, MoE, ENZ, and RoVE team**
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- Contributed to **policy and process** on such things as **strategic component funding** and **restarting international education**
- Participated in ongoing government **working parties and advisory groups** influencing key policy areas, including **Skills standards and national curriculum, Learner wellbeing and Code of Practice, Disabled learner funding, Online careers project, UFS, Quality assurance, RoVE stewardship**, and others
- **Promoted the PTE sector** and ITENZ through a **two-page Air New Zealand Kia Ora magazine article** and a **45-minute plenary at the CATE conference**
- Delivered **18 webinars**, connecting up to **80 members** at a time
- Provided **a repository of webinars for members only** on the website
- Hosted **three networking** events - in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch
- Run the **2022 ITENZ conference**, connecting **120 ITENZ members** with **27 speakers, 15 exhibitors**, government representatives, and other PTEs
- **Subsidised** Ako Aotearoa workshops for **95 ITENZ members**
- **Recognised outstanding achievement** through the **ITENZ excellence awards**
- Signed **MoUs** with **three WDCs, 1 CoVE and Te Pūkenga**
- Run **four Communities of Practice** with **80 members**, and guests attendees from government, WDCs, and iwi
- Contributed to **Ako Aotearoa's Te Rūnanga Māori** through ITENZ representation
- Received insights from Te Pūkenga's **Te Tiriti o Waitangi Excellence Framework** as part of our MoU
- Created an **International Forum** and run a **free one-day symposium**, as well as **forum meetings**
- Met regularly as part of the **International Education Alliance**, a **pan-sector representative body**
- Given **personalised services, advice, and support** to ITENZ members.
- **Produced newsletters each month**



Strategic funding

Those members who applied for strategic funding should have received their initial letters by now, and some will have gone back to TEC with additional information and/or a request for reconsideration. Once that process is complete, we will have the full picture of funding for our members.

Do talk to TEC if you have concerns.

TEC will ultimately publish a list of funded projects

Education Export Levy (EEL) resumes

Despite universal opposition from all parts of the international education sector to the reintroduction of the EEL in 2023, and despite the advice from the Ministry of Education that it be deferred, the EEL will resume from January 2023.

This additional cost is being applied at a time when international providers are just beginning to get back on their feet. The view of ITENZ and others is that it is unfair to burden providers with this cost at this time and we will continue to make that clear.

Showcasing the PTE sector and ITENZ

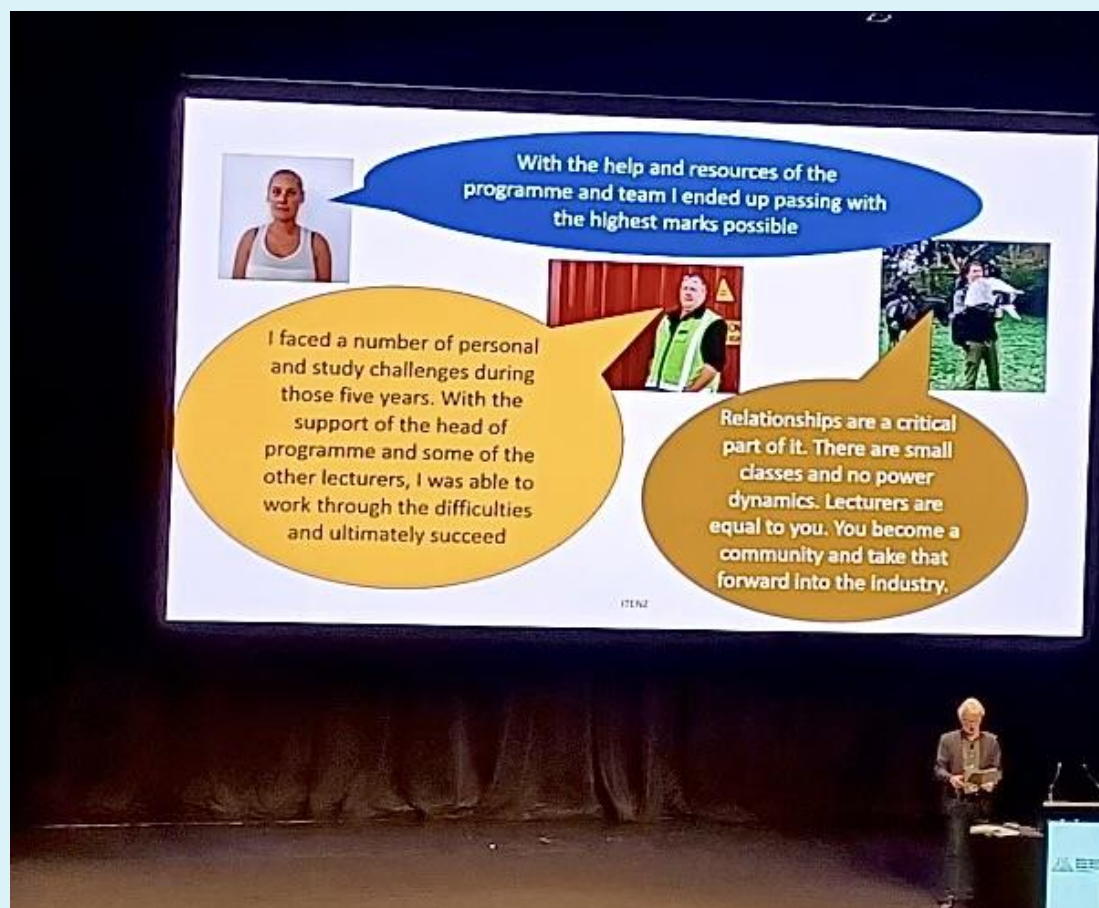
Wayne presented to the Careers and Transition Education Advisers (CATE) conference in Christchurch last week. The objective was to help careers advisors

understand more about the what PTES are, what they do, and how well they do it, with a view to encouraging them to include PTES in their discussions with students (and parents). The slide below is the final summary slide.

Summary



- PTEs provide students with a **positive, supportive, safe** learning environment that gets them **work ready** with a **recognisable qualification**
- They are **innovative** and **responsive**, and their particular strengths include **learner-centredness** and **strong employer connections**
- They are a **critical part** of the tertiary sector
- They are **highly regulated** and are of **high quality**
- Their role in vocational education will be **maintained and enhanced** under **RoVE**



Webinars and events

Webinars will resume in 2023.

Is there something you would like a webinar on? Let us know.

In the news

There is a good article which appeared in [Spinoff](#), on the resumption of **international education** and the benefits to learners and New Zealand.

Education New Zealand [published a story](#) about ITENZ member, **EcoQuest** and the

return of their USA study Abroad students.



Image from Education NZ News

Have you had a story in the media? Let us know.

ITENZ Communities of Practice

Communities of practice are sustained learning partnerships among people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.

Foundation and YG

The YG and Foundation CoP met on 21 November. Discussion points included last date of assessment for unit standards and qualifications, literacy and numeracy

standard changes, and YG funding changes.

The next meeting is scheduled for 22 February.

SDR Users

The next meeting will be on **6 December at 3pm.**

Academic Managers

The Academic Leaders group has had their last session for the year.

Having worked through a number of academic and compliance aspects during the year as a group it was decided to invite in WDC, NZQA and a speaker on Mental Health First Aid to finish the year off.

Top of the agenda for WDC is processing application for new programmes, getting their heads around the qualifications they are responsible for and skills standards.

Heather from Toitu te Waioira stated 'almost applications are coming through at a very good level, and where there are gaps they are ringing up a PTE and working things through.' That's really good sign for all those who have submitted applications.

Merrin, Jen and Melinda presented for NZQA. They too have a large number of applications being processed and are doing well to clear as many as possible by the end of the year. They offered to do another session on Learning Outcomes for members if that helped and are encouraging PTE to talk to them if not understanding NZQA processes or decisions.

NZQA is also aware some aspects of the Code are a little controversial e.g. gutting up complaint on our websites...and are working through those. New guidance will be out shortly.

Lehan Stemmet (AIS) gave us a short session on aspects to consider when working

with staff or students with mental health issues , mainly depression or anxiety. It was a great introduction and a recap of a session he delivered at ITENZ conference.

The link to the session is here: [Academic Managers Group Meeting - November 2023-20221130 143645-Meeting Recording.mp4](#)

For next year we are looking for ways the group can enhance their support for academic functions in the ITENZ PTEs involved and areas we could lead our create best practice teaching session on topics we need. For this a short questionnaire will come to members in the next few weeks.

Māori Engagement Rōpū

The Māori engagement group is **next meeting by zoom at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 13 December.**

We're expecting to mihi Mei Winitana from the Manako team at Ako Aotearoa. We're also looking forward to hosting more MOE and WDC Māori liaison people in the year ahead.

One of our main learnings for us from wānanga at conference is that PTEs are needing support and direction on better engaging tauira and ākonga, as well as possibly reaching out to local Māori. So part of our resolve is to try and develop a better panui of what's available and share that through the members only pages on the ITENZ website.

Nga mihi nui.

International Education Forum

The international forum met last week and discussed the EEL (see above), the need for up-to-date data from international members, and professional development for 2023. The group also discussed ways in which ITENZ could support marketing

activities.

Minutes will be uploaded to the Members Area of the website

The next meeting will be on **1st March, 2023**

***If you would like to participate in any of these communities of practice,
contact Wayne***

New member

We are pleased to welcome [Te Mahi Ako](#) to ITENZ. Te Mahi Ako is a newly created PTE specialising in programmes at L2-5 across sport, community and outdoor recreation, aquatics, snowsport, exercise, entertainment, and mātauranga Māori.

Reminders

A reminder that membership fees for 2023 are now due

***Merry Christmas
Meri Kirihimete***



**Ngā mihi nui
Wayne**

