



**September 2023**

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## Message from the Chair

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Welcome to the September Newsletter

Thank you to all members that found the time to attend the ITENZ Conference in Christchurch. Feedback has been great and we already have other government agencies looking at attending next year's conference with an exhibition booth. The conference is a great opportunity to meet with board members, speakers, government agency staff and other delegates to network and source information to improve business practice with a focus on our Learners.

The highlight I believe was the presentation by Neilson IQ on the research paper, *Describing the PTE Sector in 2023* and how well we as a sector do for our learners in comparison to the public sector providers. We have something to be proud of!

Next up is our AGM and I hope you will attend via zoom to engage with board members in reviewing the past and focusing on the future.

Regards

Craig Musson  
Chair

## What's been happening since the last newsletter?

Below are some of the meetings and events attended since the last edition, with some expanded on later in the newsletter.

- Meeting with MoE re Higher Education Review
- ITENZ Conference
- Presentation on PTEs to the VET Operation Leadership Group
- Peak Bodies meetings
- *Industry skill professional to kaiako meeting (ConCOVE research)*
- Presentation on PTEs to RSLG Secretariat
- Meetings with ENZ

## ITENZ Excellence Awards winners

*“An exemplary role model for all who serve in the tertiary learning sector,”* is how the adjudication panel described the recipient of the **2023 ITENZ Ako Aotearoa Supreme Award\***, Sue Townshend



**Sue Townshend, Le Cordon Bleu**

Sue, Academic Quality and Services Director at Le Cordon Bleu New Zealand, was also the recipient of the **ITENZ Outstanding Performance Award**, sponsored by Wisenet, in recognition of her ongoing commitment to reflective practice and the clear links from her extensive professional development choices to meeting learner, staff, organisational and community needs. The adjudication

panel agreed that they were looking at “a super outstanding member of Le Cordon Bleu’s staff.



*Jenny Jenkins (right) receives the Outstanding Performance Award on Sue's behalf from Carol Leoncini (Wisenet).*

**Mission Ready**, “a provider at the edge of innovation, striving for learner-focused outcomes,” was the winner of the **2023 ITENZ Provider of the Year Award**, sponsored by Public Trust.



**Jenny Jenkins receives the Supreme Award on Sue's behalf from Ako Aotearoa's Ruth Peterson and Sam Kelly.**

Mission Ready focus on real-world learning through project-based environments, ensuring students are work-ready but staircased through a supportive and safe process. They embrace technology's ongoing evolution and constantly push the

boundaries to meet student and industry needs. Looking ahead, continued investments are being made to integrate learnings from AI technologies.

ITENZ is delighted to acknowledge Mission Ready through this award.



***Chris Moore (Public Trust) and Ruth Peterson (Ako Aotearoa) present the Provider of the Year Award to Diana Sharma and Alana Kan from Mission Ready***

**People Potential**, were recipients of a Highly Commended Award in the Provider of the Year category. The panel commented, in particular, on their strong community focus and strong matauranga Māori pedagogy.



***Chris Moore (Public Trust) presenting the Highly Commended Award to Rachel Shaw and Sarah Currie from People Potential***

[Read more here](#)

## Election 2023

**Labour** have released [their manifesto](#). Some key points relevant to PTEs are:

- Prime Ministerial delegation to India within the first 100 days
- Continue the Strategic Recovery Plan for the International Education sector
- Pilot digital apprenticeships under the Digital Industry Transformation Plan
- Review the International Visitor Levy
- Further increase education and training pathways for disengaged youth
- Improve transition support for neuro diverse students moving between secondary schooling and tertiary education,
- Make the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative permanent
- Complete the implementation of RoVE
- Create a statutory right for workers to access vocational education
- Continue He Poutama Rangatahi with its focus on at-risk Māori,
- Continue to grow ACE,

**National** have not released their full manifesto but aspects of their [100-day plan](#) that are likely to impact PTEs include:

- Start reducing public sector expenditure by 6.5% on average by requiring Chief Executives to identify back-office spending not critical to frontline services
- Introduce legislation to restore 90-day trial periods for all businesses
- Begin disestablishing the Te Pūkenga polytech mega-merger and restoring local decision-making.

Their [international education plans](#) include:

- Fast track visa processing for international students who pay an additional fee.

- Increase the hours international students are able to work each week from 20 to 24.
- Expand work rights for international students and their partners
- Diversify the countries Education New Zealand recruits international students from.

Both National and Labour would keep fees-free, as would Greens. ACT would not

The minor parties may have an influence on these policies. Greens have published [their manifesto here](#) and [ACT's policies are here](#)

The Spinoff [published a two-minute comparison](#) a week or so ago

## ITENZ Conference

Feedback from the ITENZ Conference shows it was another great success. Leaders from across PTE, VET, and international education sectors came together to discuss, question and collaborate on the future of PTEs and tertiary education over the two days in Christchurch.

TEC, Chief Executive, Tim Fowler, summed up the mood with a LinkedIn post on Day One. "Having a great day at the annual ITENZ conference in Christchurch. PTEs do an amazing job and fulfil an important role in the tertiary education system."

With over 150 people present, including the Minister of Education, politicians from the four main parties, chief executives and representatives from government agencies, WDCs, and CoVEs, exhibitors from complimentary industries, and delegates from PTEs, the conference provided a wonderful opportunity to learn, share and network.

98% of respondents said they were very satisfied (highest) or satisfied with the conference with networking being the most-liked aspect, followed by the sessions/speakers







## Peak bodies meetings

The minutes from the International Peak Bodies meetings can be found in the [Members area of the website.](#)

The cross-agency minutes should be out shortly.

## Dispute Resolution Scheme

The Ministry of Education has announced that the work on the combined International and Domestic Dispute Resolution Scheme (DRS) has been completed and that the rules come into effect on Jan 1 2024. You can see the

press release in the [Members area of the website](#) (Peak Bodies\International meetings\September).

The Minister has appointed Fairway Resolution Ltd to operate the combined scheme. Fairway already operate the international scheme (istudentcomplaints)

## Impact of UFS on PTEs

We have always argued that the UFS has negatively impacted many PTEs, even though we are told in response that the PTE sector as a whole has received more funding

While this may be the case, in our first meeting with the Minister back in March, we emphasized that the biggest challenge to the sector was funding. She subsequently requested information from TEC which confirmed what we knew anecdotally - that only 37% of PTEs actually received more baseline funding (Learner and Delivery components), and **63% received less.** (Some possibly received the same amount). 43% of PTEs had a decrease of 10% or more

We continue to argue the case with the Minister, TEC and MoE and to push for policies that reflect the 'critical' role (their words) of PTEs in tertiary and vocational education

[Read the Aide Memoire to the Minister here.](#)

## ITENZ Website

A refreshed and updated [ITENZ website](#) is now live.



A new feature of the website is the [filterable list of member organisations](#), designed to help domestic or international learners and/or other visitors find a provider or programme, or the services of an affiliate member. They can search by location, subject area, level, delivery mode or other aspects.

The refreshed site also reflects branding work we have been doing to get our key messages across.

## ITENZ webinars and professional development

## **Upcoming ITENZ webinars**

*Calendar invitations for all webinars are sent to ITENZ's main contact in your organisation.*

### **WDCs - current work and future opportunities**

WDC Chief Executives, Philip Aldridge (Waihangā Ara Rau) and Kari Scrimshaw (Ringa Hora Services)

**3rd October 2pm**

### **Honouring the Treaty/Ti Tiriti**

Bradford Haami.

**4th October at 1pm**

[See here for more information](#)

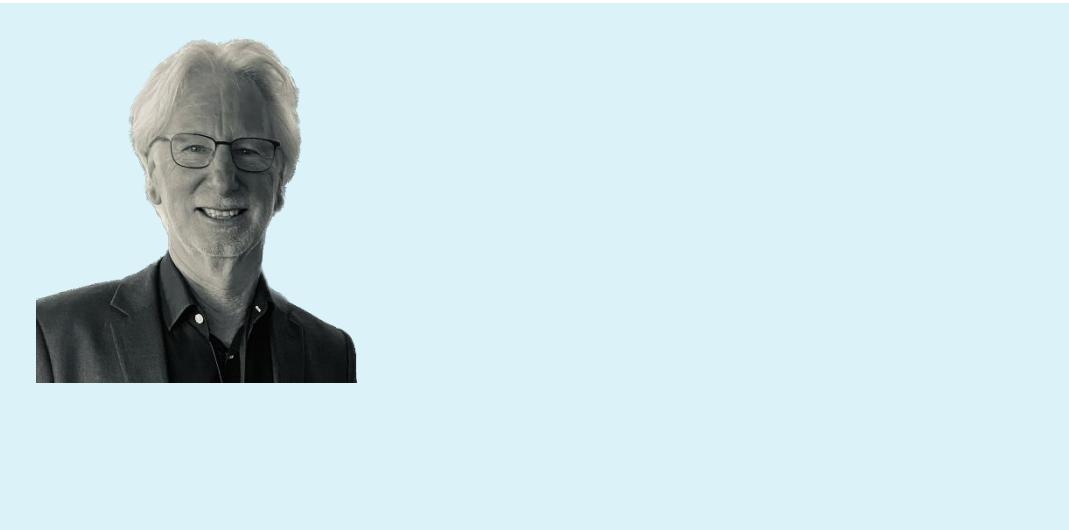
## **Reminders**

### **Code of Practice self-review attestations**

Self-review attestations are due to NZQA on **1 November**. Providers will be asked to provide a link to their published self-review reports. For more information [see here](#). This web page also has links to guidelines, tools and a webinar.

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Wayne**



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