



**April 2024**

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## Message from the Chair



Craig is away this week

## Partnership with Rothbury Insurance Brokers

We are very pleased to announce that ITENZ has signed a partner agreement with [Rothbury Insurance Brokers](#)

Brigitte Windsor, General Manager, Partnerships and Facilities says, "*We're delighted to be in a new partnership with ITENZ and look forward to establishing a great working relationship with your members.*"

The agreement means that members will be able to benefit from a single point of contact for all of their insurance needs as well as receiving information support and webinars.

We expect that over time, Rothbury will develop a good understanding of the insurance needs of PTEs and the best products and services to support them. ITENZ will benefit from a share of any commission Rothbury receives, which will then feed into support for our membership activities.

Rothbury have been in business since 1950 and have helped protect the assets of over 53,000 Kiwis and businesses over the last year and across 25 locations nationwide.

*"As the third largest Insurance Broker in New Zealand, we pride ourselves on providing personal service and quality advice. We are looking forward to working with members of ITENZ to review their current insurance arrangements ensuring they have the right cover in place to protect their business and assets."*

*We also offer customised Employee Benefits plans for staff engagement and retention as well as looking after your own personal home, contents, motor and private marine insurances. All of which will go towards helping ITENZ provide the best membership benefits.*

Your personal contact is **Angelica Shepherd** who is committed to look after your insurance needs or place you in the hands of an experienced Broker in your area.

Angelica can be contacted on **021 930 734 or 09 355 7336**

[angelica.shepherd@rothbury.co.nz](mailto:angelica.shepherd@rothbury.co.nz)



### **ITENZ Conference - featured speakers.**

Hon. Penny Simmonds has confirmed she will address the 2024 conference. Penny is Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills as well as Minister for the Environment, and Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment. She was elected the MP for Invercargill in 2020.

Dr. Mahsa McCauley is an expert in AI. She is a Senior Lecturer and the Director of Women in Tech at Auckland University of Technology, School of Computer, Engineering, and Mathematical Sciences. With a strong expertise in AI and machine learning, she is widely recognized as a leader in her field.

[For more info see here.](#)



Hon Penny Simmonds



Dr Mahsa McCaul

[\*\*Get your earlybird tickets here\*\*](#)

### ITENZ Roadshows

ITENZ Roadshows in Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch will be held over the next couple of weeks. Each will include The programme will include:

- NZQA updates on key areas, including QA framework, programme approvals and changes, collaborative activities with WDCs and other areas of interest to PTEs.

- TEC updates on key areas, including tertiary/policy environment, Customer Contact Group engagement with PTEs, and cross-agency compliance minimisation work.
- WDC updates on key initiatives, collaborative activities with NZQA, and other areas of interest to PTEs
- ITENZ updates on the PTE sector
- Guest presenters
- Q&A opportunities
- Networking time

[Registrations close on 1 May.](#)

### Peak bodies meetings

The **Cross-Agency PTE Peak Bodies** March meeting minutes are now available on [the ITENZ website.](#)

### ITENZ well represented at ICEF ANZA in Christchurch

On 22-24 April, on behalf of ITENZ membership, Giuliana Silveira attended the annual ICEF Australia New Zealand Agent event (ANZA) event in Christchurch.

Day One was filled with interesting seminars with a common denominator: the changes in Australia and Canada visa settings have made New Zealand a much more sought after destination amongst agents and different services providers.

The last session of the day was a great presentation delivered by Education New Zealand and Immigration New Zealand called 'The Rebound'. Janine Huxford highlighted what New Zealand is well known for such as food security, sustainability, agribusiness and made a clear connection to the courses we offer in these areas as an example. Celia Coombes gave a clear and transparent presentation on what INZ's levels of expectation are. They both received high praise from the attendees.

Days Two and Three were filled with agent appointments where Giuliana focused on highlighting the key selling points of the PTE sector and in particular of the ITENZ members.

She has already shared their contact details with international members, so make sure to follow up and introduce yourselves, so that you can form a fruitful and meaningful relationship.

It was great to also see some of our ITENZ members with their own desks and building relationships with new agents

### Work proceeds on reducing compliance costs

The cross-agency compliance-reduction work, which ITENZ advocated for, is working on a phased approach to cutting costs for providers, including identifying where individual agencies can reduce compliance load and where agencies can reduce duplication. Agencies, with ITENZ input, have already identified multiple areas where there is potential to do some work, with the next stage being a prioritisation exercise.

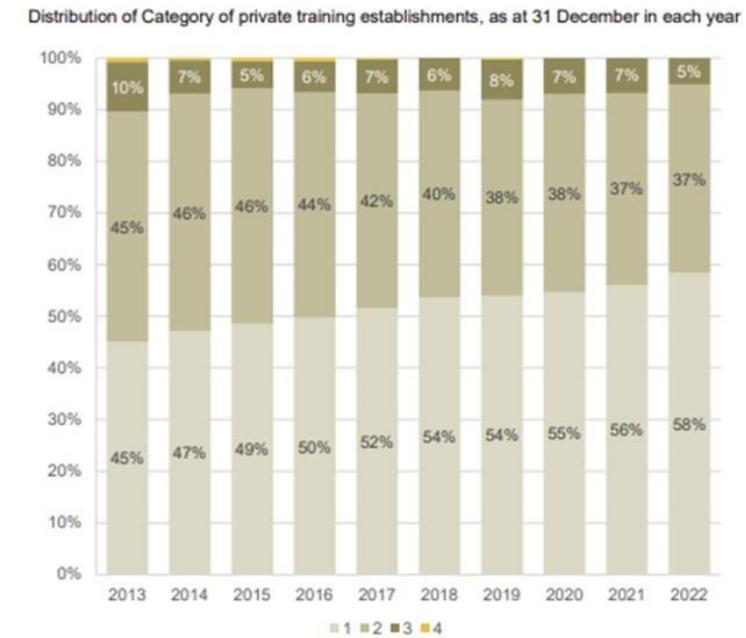
TEC, as leaders of the project, will present some of the areas identified at the upcoming ITENZ Roadshows and seek wider feedback.

### Ministry EER research provides further evidence of PTE quality

Recently, we published [ITENZ-commissioned research](#) showing the quality of PTEs, including data from recent EERs. Now the Ministry of Education has published [a comprehensive report on EER results](#) since 2013 which shows that "Overall, the quality rating of PTEs resulting from the EER reports was generally high."

The data shows continual improvement across PTEs and, while some of this can be explained by poor-performing PTEs dropping out of the system in the earlier years, the positive trend has continued. This compares very favourably to [similar research on the ITP sector](#), published last year, which showed a decline in ratings across the same areas over the same period.

The report identifies some factors that correlate with quality, such as funding source, whether or not they take international students, and the complexity of programme offerings, all of which must be seen in the context of years of experience; the more experienced a provider, the more likely they are to be more highly rated. Subject area and level can also impact quality outcomes



## Studying and living in New Zealand survey

Education New Zealand Manapou ki te Ao (ENZ) is conducting the International Student Experience Survey and is seeking your students' input.

The survey is about their experiences as an international student in New Zealand and their input will play an important role in shaping the future of studying in New Zealand. It is a short 15-minute survey and as a thank you for completing the survey, students will be entered into the prize draw with a chance to win one of two \$2,500 Prezzy Cards.

Please keep an eye out for an invitation to participate in the survey next week.

### **Increasing interest in sustainability by international students**

Reports from QS suggest that having a focus on sustainability may help attract international students.

We already know that visa settings and financial considerations are key drivers of destination choice, but once students have identified NZ as their destination, a focus on sustainability might make your programmes more attractive.

ICEF reports that, for business programmes at least, those including sustainability study are becoming more attractive and providers' commitment to sustainability values is a top-three factor in choice of institutions.

[Read more here.](#)

### **International education agent performance published**

Immigration New Zealand has published education agent performance data [on its website](#)

The data shows approval rates and application volumes for agents who had at least 5 or 10 (depending on market) application decisions made between Aug 2022 and Dec 2023. It includes the data for Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

## Hanga Aro Rau drop-in sessions for PTEs

Hanga Aro Rau is offering drop-in sessions for PTEs on Teams. Click on the link for the Teams invite

Please find the link below for drop-in sessions for PTE's for the following dates:

1. Wednesday, March 27th

[Drop-in session PTEs March 27th](#)

2. Wednesday, April 24th

[Drop-in session for PTEs April 24th](#)

3. Wednesday, May 29th

[Drop-in session for PTEs May 29th](#)

4. Wednesday, June 26th

[Drop-in session for PTEs June 26th](#)

5. Wednesday, July 31st

[Drop-in session for PTEs July 31st](#)

6. Wednesday, August 28th

[Drop-in sessions for PTEs August 28th](#)

7. Wednesday, September 25th

[Drop-in session for PTEs September 25th](#)

8. Wednesday, October 30th

[Drop-in session for PTEs October 30th](#)

9. Wednesday, November 27th

[Drop-in session for PTEs November 27th](#)

### Ako Aotearoa research funding - proposals sought

The [Ako Aotearoa Research and Innovation Agenda \(AARIA\)](#) programme is designed to support the tertiary education system to produce better learning outcomes, share research and innovation findings in ways that support teaching and learning/education and training, and provide opportunities for collaborative work and networking.

For this year's round of AARIA projects, we are seeking proposals that align with all of our broader priorities and one or more of our targeted priorities:

### ITENZ Communities of Practice updates

Minutes of previous meetings are [here](#).

### **Business and Compliance Community of Practice (Previously SDR-Users CoP)**

The Business & Compliance Community of Practice (previously SDR Users CoP) has monthly meetings for administrators working with PTE compliance and reporting. Meetings are informal with a check in and discussion about any issues or questions that we have. We share concerns or interesting developments related to funding, meeting compliance requirements and maintaining business viability/growth. New participants are welcome.

**The next meeting is from 3 – 4 pm on Thursday 23 May 2024.** Please email [jill.tuwhare@spcnm.ac.nz](mailto:jill.tuwhare@spcnm.ac.nz) if you'd like to be added to the mailing list.

### **Māori Engagement Rōpū**

The ITENZ Māori Engagement Rōpū meets monthly to share how members are supporting their Tauira, te ao Māori and te tiriti o Waitangi within their organisations and programmes. We have just set up a group on Teams for our meetings, to store meeting notes and to enable us to easily contact one another files. We are focussed on open discussion and sharing where we are at.

Our next monthly hui will take place on **Monday 13 May at 1pm**. All welcome to come along. Please contact Robyn – [robyn.carruthers@spcnm.ac.nz](mailto:robyn.carruthers@spcnm.ac.nz) or Tyree [tyree@trainingcentric.co.nz](mailto:tyree@trainingcentric.co.nz)

**Foundation and Youth Guarantee CoP** The YG and Foundation Community of Practice met on 23 April. The upcoming consistency review for the New Zealand Certificate in Foundation Skills (Level 2) was discussed. The other agenda items were added to the agenda for the next meeting which is scheduled for 18 June.

The next meeting is scheduled for 18 June at 12pm.

*Please contact [admin@itenz.co.nz](mailto:admin@itenz.co.nz) if you would like to join any of these groups.*

### Upcoming webinars

***Zoom links will be sent to the main contact in your organisation to share as relevant***



**WEBINAR: Fundamentals of instructional design**

Instructional design enables us to systematically develop effective instructional strategies and curricular resources that meet the needs of learners and achieve desired learning outcomes.

In this webinar, Dr Kumar Luxon of Matri Training and Consulting will introduce the fundamental principals of instructional design and the processes, techniques and skills required in developing face-to-face, online and blended learning materials.

Kumar was an associate professor of learning design and development at the University of Auckland for over a decade. He graduated with a PhD in instructional design and technology from Macquarie University, Australia.

**Wednesday 22**  
1.00pm-2.00pm

### Member news

**If you have a news item you would like to appear here, please contact**  
[admin@itenz.co.nz](mailto:admin@itenz.co.nz)

## New ITENZ members

We are pleased to welcome new Associate Member, [Upskills](#), a training consultancy specialising in building the communication skills of people in the New Zealand workforce.

## Reminders

**Register** now for the ITENZ Conference to get earlybird rates.

**Register** for the ITENZ Roadshows

Get your **speaker submission** in for the ITENZ Conference - we are keen to hear from members wanting to share their experience and knowledge.

Start your application for **ITENZ Awards**.

### **Note NZQA application deadlines for Semester One 2025 delivery**

Degrees - by 1st July

L1-6 - by 4th October

**Check 2025 consistency review schedule on NZQA website**

### **Use ITENZ logo on your website**

This differentiates you from non-members. If you need a copy, please email

[admin@itenz.co.nz](mailto:admin@itenz.co.nz)



**Ngā mihi nui**  
**Wayne**

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