



November 2024

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Message from the Chair



Welcome

Since our last newsletter the Peak Bodies Meetings have been held and a number of issues raised. We had, as a whole International sector, the first opportunity to hear from Minister Penny Simmonds on her thoughts for International Education. We are still hopeful to meet with Minister Erica Stanford in her role as Minister of Immigration.

Although Education NZ has reported further recovery of the International education sector with international enrolments at 46,109 as at early October 2024, this is still only 76% of October 2019, so we have a long way to go. Positive Immigration NZ settings around visa approvals and processing are a key component of enabling providers to reach pre-Covid levels. We were advised that improvements are being made with processing, so that is positive. However, the government has a long way to go to enable providers to meet the government's goal of doubling export

income, of which International education is a part.

The Board are actively involved in the review of the IQAF and we encourage you all to put in individual submissions. At the Peak Bodies Meeting, we highlighted the need to combine the annual Code of Practice self assessment with the self review replacing the EER so we are not duplicating compliance.

We have also stressed the need for a foundation learning review to be considered with urgency for 2025. It is something we have previously raised with the Minister and will do so again.

We have also raised the issue of the aviation funding cap in respect to EFTS and student loans, following the recently published report on behalf of Ringa Hora and the Aviation Industry Association of NZ. So far there has not been any action taken by Government in response to the findings

With our final b\Board meeting on the 5th December we will be working on submissions and finalising the draft changes to the ITENZ constitution.

On behalf of the Board we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy your break!

Craig Musson
Board Chair

Peak bodies meetings

The November peak bodies meetings were held this week.

The cross-agency meeting with MoE, NZQA, TEC, MSD and WDCs included discussions on L&N issues, financial viability, investment plans, the Code, compliance work and aviation caps.

In the afternoon international meeting, we heard from Minister Simmonds, who is aware of the visa and PSWR issues. How we double international education under current visa settings remains a core area of interest for providers. New ENZ CE, Amanda Malu, presented her high level plans for ENZ and we heard from INZ, MBIE, NZQA and MFAT officials.

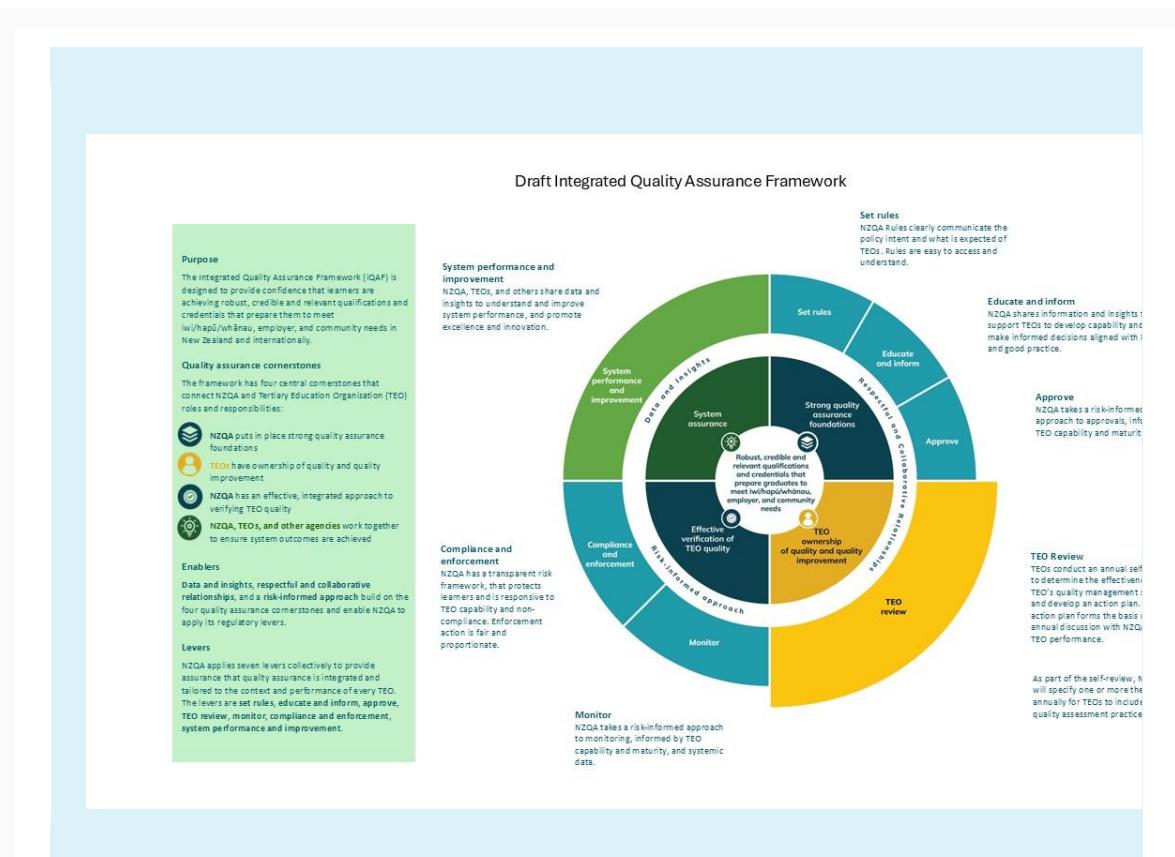
Full minutes will be out in the next couple of weeks.

Consultations

ITENZ submitted on two TEC proposals, Significant Plan Amendments and the Refreshed Response Framework. You can read both submissions in the [members area of the website.](#)

We are currently working on a submission on the [Integrated Quality Assurance Framework \(IQAF\) Redesign.](#)

If you have any feedback on that which you would like included, please let us know by **4th December**



ITENZ webinars - this year and next

The next ITENZ webinar is:

Immigration New Zealand - PTE Sector Update

4 December, 1-2pm

Presenter: Mark Andrew, INZ Engagement Partner

The session will include:

- Immigration update
- Preparing for the peak period
- Looking ahead to 2025 and beyond

Calendar invitations have been sent to the main contact in your member organisation.

2025

We have received a lot of suggestions from members for webinars they would like to have in 2025, including government updates, future directions of the sector, AI in teaching, learning and assessment, neurodiversity, Māori and Pacific learners, and marketing, among other things.

We are in the process of planning and will try to address as many interests as we can.

Feel free to send through any suggestions or feedback.

ConCOVE webinar: Research to Action: Work-based trainer insights for apprenticeships

3 December

12.10-1.00pm

Host: Katherine Hall, ConCOVE Executive Director

This session will feature insights from key contributors to the Work-Based Trainer Project. Jackie Messam from Rippled will share the research findings and best practices identified in the project, while Betty Mitrova from Downer and Marcia Hintz from New Zealand Certified Builders Association (NZCB) will discuss how their organisations are applying these outcomes to enhance training.

This session is particularly relevant for work-based learning providers, employers, and policymakers looking to improve apprenticeship outcomes.

[Register to attend >> \[CLICK HERE\]](#)

Designing for neurodiversity

Earlier this month Ako Aotearoa published a Manako Briefing paper titled [Designing for Neurodiversity](#).

The paper is intended to brief the Minister and includes useful links to professional development opportunities and resources.

Public perception of international education

Education New Zealand has published its [Survey of the Public Perceptions of International Education](#), which shows that more than three quarters New Zealanders believe that the country should host the same or more international students. 82% agree that international students contribute to our cultural diversity, with 79% feeling they help local students learn about other cultures and ways of life, as well as contributing to local business during their studies.

There is also a webinar there which you can watch.

Australian caps on international education in doubt

The Coalition opposition in Australia [has signaled it will oppose the bill](#) to impose the caps on international students in Australian institutions, meaning the bill may not go through. The Coalition are not completely opposed to some form of caps, however, so there is still considerable uncertainty over what may happen.

This may have some impact in New Zealand as the prospect of caps on

international students had seen increased interest in New Zealand.

ITENZ Communities of Practice

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

Business and Compliance CoP

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a fabulous holiday season!

We hope to see you at our first meeting of 2025 from **3 - 4 pm on Thursday 20 February 2025.**

Our monthly meetings are an informal get-together for administrators working with PTE compliance and reporting, with a check in and discussion about any issues or questions. We share concerns or interesting developments related to funding, meeting compliance requirements and maintaining business viability/growth. New participants are welcome.

Please email 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.

All welcome to come along. For details on the next meeting, please contact Robyn – robyn.carruthers@spcnm.ac.nz

Foundation and Youth Guarantee CoP

The YG and Foundation Community of Practice met on 12 November. Most of the discussions were a continuation of the items for the last meeting. The structure of vocational pathways, the expiry date of the foundation skills qualifications, and a reflection of the year were discussed.

The next meeting will be in February, with the date to be confirmed.

International Education Forum

If you are not on the mailing list for this group and would like to be involved, contact Giuliana at giuwork05@gmail.com

Trade jobs directory

Trade Jobs, a job board and recruitment platform aimed at trades, have launched a Training Organisation Directory, designed to guide visitors—students new to trades, upskillers, or career changers—to training providers. The directory enables users to discover where to train across various categories, including Construction, Plumbing, Automotive, Electrical, Engineering, and more. PTEs can sign up for a dedicated page on the site, linked to their website, and be promoted to their database and social media audiences.

Compliance product

In collaboration with QED Associates, Dacreed have developed [a compliance solution](#) catered to the PTE sector, aimed at making compliance more efficient and comprehensive. It will streamline regulatory returns, policy updates, staff onboarding and continuous development and maintain a range of registers such as student complaints, health and safety and moderation schedules. If you would like to know more, contact Marjolein Wesseling: marjolein.wesseling@dacreed.com

Workforce Futures Fund

In September we noted the creation of a new fund for workforce development. Details are now available on <https://workforcefuturesfund.nz/>

The Workforce Futures Fund | Tahua Rāngaimahi Anamata, will open in mid-February 2025 for applications from these industries: Aged support; Cleaning; Disability support; Home and community health services; Mental health and addiction support; Social services; Urban pest management; and Youth work.

Applicants need to work in those industries or have strong support from sector bodies.

\$15m is available that will be spent down via two grant rounds each year over the next three years. This timeframe may change based on the number and type of applications. The second grant round will open in August 2025.

The fund's purpose is supporting innovation in workforce development and demonstrating the value of strategic investment. It will fund greater use of

technology; collaboration across industries; and improved service delivery through:

- Vocational training, workforce development and education
- Programmes, information and resources to promote best practice and continuous improvement and
- Attracting people to work in the sectors and workforce retention.

It will prioritise applications that benefit:

- Māori;
- Pacific; and
- Disabled People.

For more information visit www.workforcefuturesfund.nz. To receive future updates fill out [this form](#)

ITENZ Conference 2025

The initial ITENZ conference details are [now on the website](#), including a booking code if you wish to stay onsite at the Millenium Hotel.



New members

We are pleased to welcome new member [JNP Aviation Training](#), who offer courses in ground handling and leadership as well as aviation cadetships.

We are also pleased to welcome new affiliate member, [PeopleCert/LanguageCert](#) who offer international assessment, including English language assessment

Reminders

1. ITENZ membership information for 2025 was due 1 November.

Please return the form if you haven't already done so

2. Are you planning to deliver **ACE, L&N, YG, other DQ 1&2 extramurally** in 2025? If so have you been contacted by TEC to go through the approval process? If not let the customer contact centre know.

3. International providers are reminder to advise students and agents to get visa applications in **at least three months before travel date** - especially as we are in peak period



As this is the last newsletter of the year, I would like to thank you for your continued involvement with ITENZ and for your contribution to the PTE sector.

We wish you a happy and restful holiday and look forward to working with you in

Ngā mihi nui
Wayne Dyer
CE ITENZ

Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand

Phone: 021 307 087

E-Mail: admin@itenz.co.nz

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