



### **TPP partners with Rotary for community benefit**

West Coast children will be the winners in a new partnership designed to give back to the local community.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic has confirmed that this year's class of construction students will build a full-size house to be auctioned through Rotary as a fundraiser for the children's wing in the new Greymouth Hospital.

Chief Executive Alex Cabrera says that the auction is a symbol of the polytechnic's place at the heart of its community.

"We are here to provide what the Coast needs, as an integral part of this community. So while we're helping people to gain a new skill or learn a trade, we're also using our resources to support the same community," he says.

"Partnering with Rotary to give back to our community provides a wonderful opportunity for the work we do to reach those in need."

Alex says that knowing that their hard work is for a good cause is a motivating factor for the students.

"For many of our young people today, there is a real desire to give back, and to look beyond themselves. This year's class of construction students has the opportunity to do just that, and it's a challenge they are relishing. They see it as a win – win; they are gaining valuable experience under experienced tutors and covering every aspect of house building, while creating a product that will ultimately benefit the most vulnerable members of their community."

"Our new ethical framework at TPP focuses on social responsibility, because our organisation has an obligation to act for the benefit of the West Coast at large. We want our students to learn about social enterprise and our community to be motivated by the potential of what we can achieve by working together," he says.

Greymouth Rotary President Greville Wood says that the organisation is pleased to partner with the polytechnic and to contribute its expertise and contacts towards the promotion and successful sale of the house.

"Tai Poutini Polytechnic is very important to the West Coast community now and in the future, and we are keen to support the TPP team and students," he says.

“What the construction students will learn as they build the house will not only give them the skills and confidence they need to step into their future careers, but they will also know that they are doing something to help hospitalised children and their families.”

The house will be auctioned mid-2018 and completed later this year.

For more information visit [www.tpp.ac.nz/projecthouse2018](http://www.tpp.ac.nz/projecthouse2018)

**For more information contact:**

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