

Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

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Digital initiatives on show at Polytechnic

Digital learning initiatives at Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP) were showcased to Government Ministers during yesterday's visit to the Greymouth campus.

Ministers Paul Goldsmith and Louise Upston spent the afternoon with TPP staff and Council members following the morning launch of the West Coast Economic Development Action Plan.

During the visit, Minister Goldsmith announced the establishment of the New Zealand Institute for Minerals to Materials Research on the West Coast, to be led by industry organisation Minerals West Coast Trust. Minister Upston launched the Government's new Digital Economy Initiative.

<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/new-west-coast-research-institute-announced>

TPP Chief Executive Alex Cabrera says the visit was a great opportunity to highlight the institute's digital learning and technology innovations.

"It was a pleasure to host Ministers Upston and Goldsmith and talk about the importance of digital innovation in education.

"As part of a campus tour, we were able to showcase some of TPP's latest initiatives in digital education. This included a visit to our new trades training facility that incorporates digital automotive technology in the learning environment to mirror real-world workshop equipment; examples collaboration with industry and business partners to support the wider economic development of the West Coast; and the introduction of a new, higher-level software development programme in 2018," Mr Cabrera says.

"The visit was a great success and we welcome the announcement of the new Research Institute and the Government's Digital Economy Initiative. Basing the institute on the West Coast is a fantastic boost for the region; we are excited about the opportunities it presents and will do everything we can to support its establishment.

"Wider digital initiatives remain important for education and learning and we will continue to focus on the integration of technology to all of our training programmes to ensure we produce graduates who are ready for work in the real world."

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