

Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

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TPP contributes to the good of the region

Last year's Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP) project house has found a new home in Franz Josef, while plans for the auction of the 2018 home gather momentum.

Each year, students build a three-bedroom home as part of their carpentry studies, gaining real, on-the-job experience. The 2017 house was transported from Greymouth to its new home in Franz Josef at the end of last week.

This year the house will be auctioned-off to the highest bidder, with profits going to charity. TPP has partnered with Rotary and proceeds from the build will be going to support the Kowhai Project – enhancing the children's ward and creating green spaces around the new Grey Base Hospital.

TPP Chief Executive Alex Cabrera says the project is a fantastic way for students to learn in a real-world environment. It also allows the Polytechnic to make a contribution to the wider community.

“My main priority is to ensure TPP contributes to the social investment in the West Coast community”.

“At TPP we are focused on being part of the community and contributing to the good of the region as a whole. The charity house project offers the best of both worlds: students learn the skills of working on-the-job, as well as taking part in a project that benefits the people they live alongside.”

For the first time, TPP has partnered with Rotary to build on the positive aspects of the house project and make a difference to local people.

West Coast Rotary Project Co-ordinator Brent Woolhouse says local businesses have an opportunity to take part in the charity house project and make a difference to their community by contributing materials or services to the build.

“The more support local people are able to give, the greater the amount we are able to give to our charity after the auction. We couldn't do it without the help of all our generous sponsors and we've already had plenty of interest in this year's charity project.

“This is a great example of a true community project, with the Polytechnic working alongside Rotary, businesses and industry for the greater good of the community,” Mr Woolhouse says.

There is still time for businesses to get involved in this year's Charity House Project – you can find out more by contacting Brent Woolhouse or visiting www.tpp.ac.nz/projecthouse2018

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