

Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

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TPP offers new training to meet changing business needs

Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP) wants to hear from local businesses and the community as it prepares to launch training programmes for the second half of the year.

The COVID-19 lockdown has had a significant impact on the local economy. As we gradually shift out of pandemic restrictions, our work or study needs are changing. TPP is supporting local businesses by providing training options that meet changing needs. We want to hear about your situation and so we can look at delivering new programmes that provide staff the skills needed to keep businesses up and running.

With the establishment of the NZ Institute of Skills and Education, TPP now has greater access to resources and opportunities to meet the training needs of our region.

TPP Leader – Engagement Mequa Hourston says TPP can be an integral part of the change that’s happening in our community right now.

“We also want to hear from members of the community who are interested in upskilling in certain areas or are looking for a change in career. There are some real options available and we’re always here to talk through opportunities with individuals as well as businesses.”

Alex Cabrera Chief Executive says TPP has been working with local agencies including Development West Coast to identify ways of better supporting economic regenerations on the West Coast.

“I am excited about the opportunities the current situation presents for the West Coast; providing a good coordination approach will be critical for the success of initiatives.”

TPP has been supporting the community by getting involved in the recent launch of NowOpen.co.nz – an online tool to help businesses get back on their feet and show local people what services and products are available during the lockdown.

Mrs Hourston says there were two reasons why TPP was supportive of that initiative, and why it is reaching out now to the community to understand more.

“Firstly, we are responding to an immediate need in the local community. Secondly, we have a role to support future employment and business needs by providing training options that work for local businesses as the economy adjusts.

“As we emerge from the pandemic, we know it’s going to be tough for local businesses. They’ll need to pivot and adjust to a new economy and there’s going to be a need for training and upskilling. TPP is also looking to the future of the West Coast economy and preparing to meet our future employment needs.”

Contact Leader – Engagement Mequa Hourston directly on 027 237 5844, free phone 0800 800 411 or email mequah@tpp.ac.nz

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