



Vocational Education Reforms Consultation – Submission

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Ministry of Education
Tertiary Education Commission

Kia ora,

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

As operators of a business located in the Nelson Tasman Region, we are aware that demonstrated industry support will be an important consideration for the Government when determining the future of NMIT. We believe that the greatest benefit for our region will be having an independent ITP that can be nimble and quick to support the needs of industry and the local business community. Therefore, we support NMIT being re-established as a stand-alone institute.

Competition for skilled employees is always a consideration for any business, and developments in technology require access to training support. Locally delivered, work-based skills training and vocational education are important for businesses like ours that need to retain and upskill staff.

We are aware that the future financial viability of NMIT will also be a key consideration for the Government in determining the future status of the organization. As the region's only significant ITP, NMIT has a strong track record and is the training partner for many industries, including ours. When Te Pūkenga was established, it is our understanding that NMIT had close to \$20 million in financial reserves, the result of robust governance and prudent financial management.

We note that the issue of financial reserves is not addressed in the consultation documentation, but we cannot ignore the fact that the financial sustainability of NMIT will be enhanced by returning the ring-fenced funding to the organization once it is re-established. We request that these funds be returned to NMIT as a matter of fairness and to help ensure its success.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require clarification or have any questions regarding our submission.

We are happy for our submission to be made public and released under the Official Information Act.

Yours sincerely,

Name:

Position:

Organisation: