

Te Korowai Mātauranga o Taranaki

THE CLOAK OF KNOWLEDGE
SHARING WITT'S VISION 2021



Kia Māia
Be Your Best

WITT's Board

The WITT Board of Directors is the governing body of the Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki Limited, a subsidiary of New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology.

The Board was established on 1 April 2020 and its eight Directors are:



Robin Brockie, Chair



Bev Gibson, Deputy-Chair



Lyal French-Wright



Cassandra Crowley



Charlotte Littlewood



Daniel Fleming



Colleen Tuuta



Sam Huggard

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Building our future, Taranaki

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Feedback

We'd love to hear what you think.

If you'd like to provide feedback, please send it to:
executivemanager@witt.ac.nz

Taranaki in Transition

Kia ora! Nau mai ki Te Kura Matatini o Taranaki.

Taranaki has a workforce and economy built on ingenuity, hard work and a rich cultural and natural heritage.

Taranaki is on the brink of transformational change as we reach forward to the principles of kaitiakitanga, to both protect our environmental heritage and reshape the skills of our people, enabling a low emission economy that enriches the land, the sea and the air, as well as its people.

Respect for our treasured place is driving transformation.

Our people will form the foundation from which our future will grow. Education is at the heart of that transformation.

WITT's job is to cloak the region of Taranaki in knowledge – reflected in our strategy, Te Korowai Mātauranga o Taranaki. This document outlines our vision for the next 5 to 10 years, illustrating our plans to wrap the Korowai around the shoulders of every learner in our region.

It is designed to assist our communities, industries and civic leaders to glimpse our future, and to see the powerful contribution WITT has to make, and in partnership, build an inclusive, skilled and future-ready people in Taranaki.



John Snook

Tumu Whakarae | Chief Executive
Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki



Robin Brockie

Heamana | Chair
Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki

There is transformative change before us both here in Taranaki and on a global scale.

This is providing some exciting opportunities for WITT as the region's tertiary provider.

WITT will be a key player in the transition to a low carbon economy and a foundational part of Taranaki's innovation ecosystem.

With a focus on being open-minded and agile, we are preparing WITT and Taranaki for the future of work and the reimagining of vocational education in Aotearoa.

WITT's contribution will make a long-lasting economic and social impact on this region and our communities.

We welcome your support

We invite the many businesses, organisations, whānau and people of Taranaki to be part of driving WITT forward. Please email us your thoughts and feedback to the email address on the left. Your participation in supporting WITT will ensure all of Taranaki will be benefited by having a vibrant and strong Tertiary College educating and retraining our people for a prosperous and thriving future.

Te Korowai Mātauranga o Taranaki
To cloak the region of Taranaki in knowledge

Technological change, the Future of Work and Lifelong Learning

The Productivity Commission has completed its inquiry into technological change and the future of work, and presented its final report and recommendations to Government.

What did the inquiry find?

Technology doesn't just replace jobs, it also creates them.

Technology has many effects on the labour market, some of which are positive for workers, the quality of work, and jobs. Predictions that technology will inevitably replace work are simplistic and out of step with historical experience.

There isn't much sign of looming technological disruption.

Faster technological progress would be evident in labour market and economic measures, such as productivity growth, occupational churn, and business start-up rates. But across the developed world, all of these measures are slowing or declining.

New Zealand needs more technology, not less.

Technological progress and adoption drives productivity and income growth. If we want higher incomes for ourselves and our children, New Zealand firms need to take up technology at a faster rate than has been the case in recent years.

New Zealand is well-placed for faster technology adoption in some respects, but not in others.

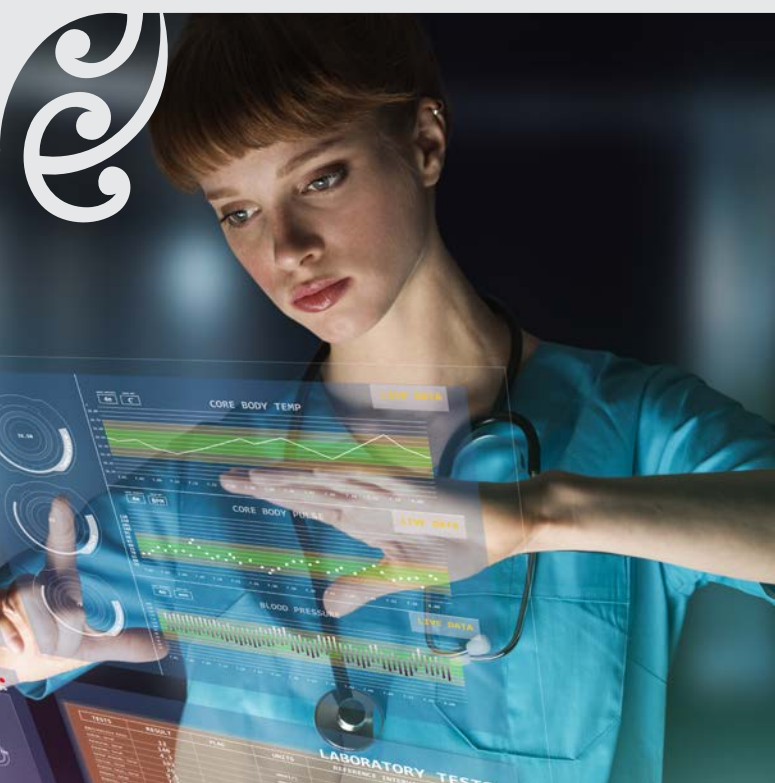
By international standards, adult New Zealanders are skilled and train at high levels. Our policy settings generally encourage openness to ideas, goods, services, investment and skills. And our labour market has historically done a good job of creating lots of jobs. On the other hand, core skill levels in our schools are dropping; high house prices make it hard for some workers to move to better jobs; and New Zealand's business environment lacks dynamism.

WITT is focused on Lifelong Learning to equip the people of Taranaki in the changing world of work.

New Zealand should build on its strengths and address its weaknesses.

The Commission recommends a number of policy changes to better prepare current and future New Zealanders for the future of work:

- Make the training system more flexible and accessible. Shorter courses, and better access to financial support, will make it easier for New Zealanders to keep their skills current and retrain.
- Improve and expand careers advice and employment support. More can be done to help people successfully navigate career and job change.
- Urgently address the performance of the school system. Schooling that leaves a significant share of New Zealanders with poor skills will leave them ill-prepared to succeed in the future.
- Update employment law to target harms, not platforms. 'Gig' work creates benefits for many people. Employment law should be updated to recognise how technology is changing some work and make it easier for contractors to gain benefits such as training, insurance and superannuation contributions.
- Explore options for better income smoothing. Some New Zealanders who lose their jobs currently face large falls in incomes and high financial stress.
- Update regulation to remove barriers to technology and promote worker mobility. Some New Zealand regulations need refreshing, including data access, competition policy, genetic modification controls and land use policies.



Future-proofing our economy by retaining and retraining the people of Taranaki

The Future Workforce Challenge

Presently the demand for university qualifications draws 75% of our NCEA Level 3 graduates out of the Taranaki region. This is evidenced in the lower percentage in young people aged 15-35 years living in Taranaki, compared with the national average and other age cohorts.

Of those achieving NCEA Level 3 and pursuing tertiary qualifications three-quarters leave the region. (2009-2014 data)

• WITT retained	909	25 %
• Victoria	801	22 %
• Massey	755	21 %
• Otago	359	10 %
• Auckland	297	8 %
• Canterbury	273	7 %
• Waikato	256	7 %

25% stay 75% leave

A fit-for-purpose tertiary institution would make staying and contributing to Taranaki's workforce and economy more attractive.

Added challenges Taranaki faces are:

- An aging population.
- The Future of Work transition.
- Transition to a low emission economy.

Workforce Transformation for a low-emission economy

Sectors of the economy which contribute significant greenhouse gas emissions will be undergoing transition to a low emission future in order for New Zealand to meet its net-zero goals. This is particularly in primary industries, construction and transport sectors. WITT will be strengthening its focus on new technologies to ensure Taranaki's workforce can engage in this transition.

Lifelong Learning is becoming an economic imperative.

Technological and transition change demands stronger and more continuous connections between education and employment.

With change of skills needed for each profession, workers will have to adjust. That will mean making education and training flexible enough to teach skills quickly and efficiently. It will require a greater emphasis on lifelong learning and on-the-job training, with a wider use of online learning tools, as people transition while staying active in the workforce.

Demographic challenges

WITT understands the challenges around our regional economy, with a higher level of young people not in education, employment or training than other parts of the country. We all need to think differently about the transition from compulsory secondary to optional tertiary education if we are to build prosperity for all and strengthen our social cohesion.

WITT invites our community to lend their weight to the task before us all.



Our Purpose : Your Profession

WITT's purpose is to connect people to their future, providing education to the region of Taranaki that prepares people for employment.

The more learners we can engage in education, the more employment opportunities exist in our region. WITT's new strategic plan has at its heart, the desire to "cloak the region of Taranaki in knowledge" i.e. Te Korowai Mātauranga o Taranaki.

WITT has four Schools and four Pou.

The intertwining of the four schools and the four pou is like the weaving of the cloak, that covers the Taranaki region in knowledge.

The School of Māori Enterprise, Business and Technology

Comprising of programmes related to Māori Enterprise, Te Reo, Administration, English Language, Business, Management and Information Technology.

The School of Nursing, Health and Wellness

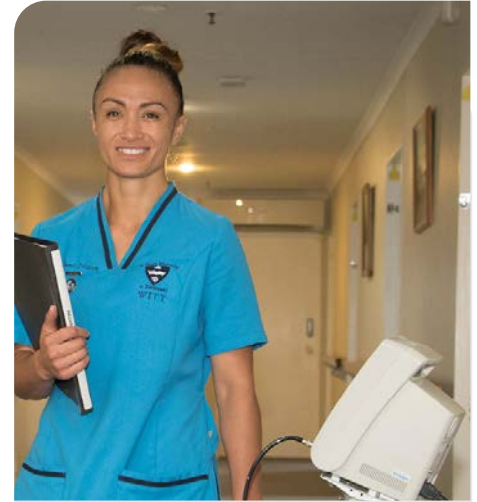
Comprising of programmes relating to Nursing, Healthcare, Beauty, Hairdressing, Makeup, Foundation Studies, Fitness, Mental Health and Well-being, and Skills for Living for Supported Learners.

The School of Trades Training, Creative and Primary Industries

Comprising of programmes related to Art and Design, Primary Industries, Trades Training, Construction, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, Gas-fitting and Drain-laying and Hospitality.

NZIHT School of Engineering, Energy and Infrastructure

Comprising of programmes relating to Engineering, Energy and Infrastructure.



Our Pou

Tokomanawa

Lifelong Learning

Tuarongo

Global Citizenship

Aronui

Sustainability

Ao

Employment Outcomes

Te Korowai Mātauranga



Our Place is Your Place

The future of WITT is a region-wide campus.

Projects and partnerships across Taranaki will go hand in hand with advancing technology, to make learning accessible to everyone regardless of where in our rohe they live.



Taranaki is on the brink of transformational change and the education and re-skilling of our people will form the foundation from which our future will grow. To ensure this foundation is robust and will support the region in its aspirations, an investment must be made in infrastructure that supports WITT's purpose of delivering modern, flexible and responsive tertiary and vocational education to the region.



WITT will outreach to communities through schools and community facilities, in places like Opunake, Manaia and Patea, including access to WITT's courses through an internet linked portal.

WITT across Taranaki: Our Vision

Taranaki Region

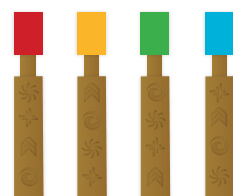
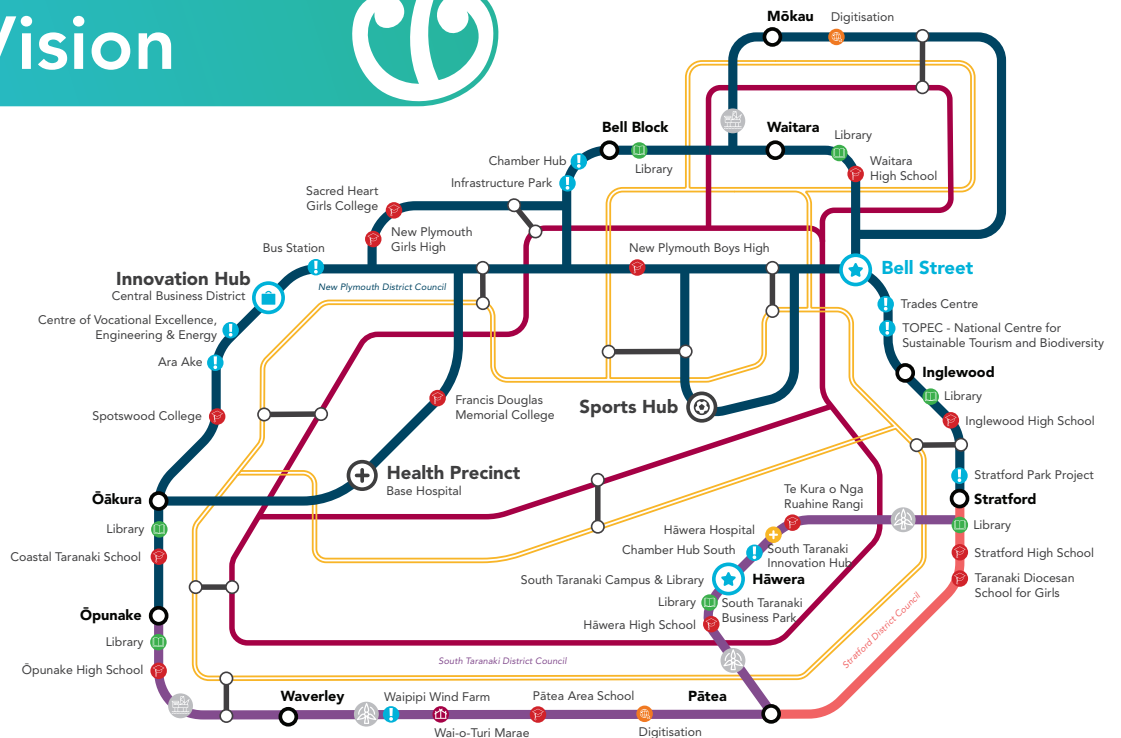
Key

Connectors

- Ultra Fast Fibre
- Fuel Cell Electric Buses (Hydrogen)

Councils

- New Plymouth District Council
- Stratford District Council
- South Taranaki District Council



- Te Pou Tokomanawa** Lifelong Learning
- Te Pou Aronui** Sustainability
- Te Pou Tuarongo** Global Citizenship
- Te Pou Ao** Employment Outcomes

Campus Masterplan

Due to the difficult operating environment that WITT has faced over the past 15+ years there is a requirement for significant investment to bring WITT's buildings up to a comparable standard of most other Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics (ITP's) in New Zealand, and to ensure that they are fit for purpose for the next 10-20 years.

WITT has developed a Campus Masterplan to address this. This will enhance the student experience, increase engagement with the community and ultimately improve WITT's image and reputation while growing student numbers.

“ Te Pūkenga is preparing a Capital Asset Management Plan for the network across New Zealand. Early work highlights that WITT (Taranaki) and NorthTec (Northland) are in need of substantial capital investment in the next decade. To enable early action on the vision of Taranaki and WITT, we'll need local and central Government funding support. Te Pūkenga looks forward to working with the Region on the growth plan. ”



Stephen Town
Tumu Whakarāe
Chief Executive
Te Pūkenga

WITT's Five stage plan for educational and economic transformation

Stage	Description	Estimated Cost	Approx. Time
1	Creating an entrance, 'heart and soul' for WITT at Bell Street – the Industry Hall.	\$4m	2023 onwards
2	Bringing WITT into the 21st Century: upgrading and opening up A and B Block, development of F Block – the Community Auditorium.	\$21m	2023 onwards
3	Enhancing our trades training offering through a new centre and an Infrastructure Park. Participate in developing an EcoCampus in South Taranaki.	\$10m	2023 onwards
4	Partnering with the community: Taranaki Health Education Precinct	\$30m	2024 onwards
5	Bringing the Māori Enterprise & Business School to the CBD, potentially co-locating with other companies and agencies in an Innovation Hub. Participate in developing the Business Park in South Taranaki and the TOPEC site in North Taranaki.	\$30m	2025 onwards



Taranaki is built on the Trades

The need for investment in the trades campus is strongly focused on responding to the anticipated increased demand for trades-based skills in Taranaki and implementing a teaching and learning model which is learner-centred and focused on delivering skills.

WITT has recognised the need to review its trades training educational delivery operations to enable it to be flexible, connected, responsive, and focused on the emerging opportunities, as well as ensuring it remains relevant.

Without this investment it is possible that its capacity to sustain trades-training at current levels may suffer due to the physical environment being unable to support the teaching and delivery model required by industry partners.

Achieving a vision of providing more flexible trades training will require a change in delivery strategies, changes to the facilities, and increased access to technology to underpin flexibility and customisation. The need to expand trades training in Taranaki is addressed in Stage 3 of WITT's Masterplan.

An Infrastructure Park enhancing trade training.

The Infrastructure Park would directly align with the Government's economic recovery packages and infrastructure stimulus package, as well as the Taranaki 2050 Roadmap to deliver more skilled engineering and trades workers to support our region.

The purpose of an Infrastructure Park, in partnership with industry would be to respond to industry needs for more skilled workers in the construction, civil engineering and infrastructure sectors, as well as provide students with hands-on, practical, on-the-job skills.

The Infrastructure Park aligns with NPDC's Talent Pipeline initiative, which was designed to promote and pathway people into the civil engineering and infrastructure contracting industries. Excellent work has already been undertaken by NPDC in this space. The Infrastructure Park also compliments the significant support that NPDC have already given the Build-a-Bridge project.

The proposed Trades Training Centre

The trades are the fastest growing employment opportunities in Taranaki. WITT needs to be ahead of the demand curve for qualified trades people to support Taranaki businesses in the years ahead.



Making a South Taranaki Campus an "EcoCampus"

WITT believes Taranaki has an opportunity to bring leadership in creating a sustainability focused network of educational institutions.

Establishing an EcoCampus.

An EcoCampus scheme would enable a flexible phased approach to implementing an environmental management system in the South Taranaki Campus. It would phase in more efficient utilisation of resources, improve recycling and reducing waste volumes as well as reducing the carbon footprint of the campus's power utilisation.

An EcoCampus could encourage low or zero emissions transport for its students where possible.

An EcoCampus would be a place where students can learn new skills, repair things and up-cycle unwanted items. Students would learn about the 'whole-of-life' cost and environmental effect of items and learn how to recycle rather than replace as many items as possible.

An EcoCampus would need passionate people to run the programme and look for opportunities to assist people in the community with recycled items of value. For instance, from 2013-2018 the University of Waikato diverted or redeployed over 50 tonnes of furniture and equipment, with about 60% diverted back into the University and 40% gifted to the community.

EVelocity - Students racing their own electric vehicles.

EVelocity, partnering with New Zealand's future energy development centre, Ara Ake, is launching in Taranaki in 2021. Taranaki schools will be supported by sponsors Ara Ake, Evnex and WITT, to design, build and race their electric vehicles as part of the EVelocity programme.



EVelocity (electric cars) made by students



WITT is establishing a Centre of Vocational Excellence in Energy and Engineering





Growing our Health and Wellbeing capability as a region

WITT currently offers a range of nursing, health and wellness education programmes which are delivered at the main campus. The growing requirement for skilled health workers, combined with the current redevelopment of the Taranaki Base Hospital, presents a well-timed opportunity to develop a 'Health Precinct' and integrate vocational health education, research and delivery through working closely with healthcare providers around the Mounga, including Hāwera hospital and aged and community care providers.

Investment in appropriate health training infrastructure will support student growth and staff growth in healthcare facilities, potentially increasing the range of health and wellness programmes in the future. It will also bring more health education providers into the region, extending the breadth and depth of the health workforce, and ultimately contribute to better health and wellbeing outcomes for our region.

The proposed "Health Precinct" at the TDHB



An Innovation Ecosystem enabling Transition

Taranaki is a leading region in producing food and fibre, as well as energy through world-class science and engineering.

WITT wants to support the establishing of Innovation Hubs in the Taranaki region that could enable businesses and industries in their transition, but could assisting them to grow and thrive.

As a leading region in many ways, now engaging in the challenge of transition to a low emissions future, linked Innovation Hubs in North and South Taranaki could enhance our capability as a region to transition and thrive by bringing together strategic thinkers, innovators and entrepreneurs.

Supporting Aspirations for All

WITT believes collaborative relationships with the business community through the Taranaki Chamber of Commerce, District Councils, Taranaki Regional Council, Nga Iwi o Taranaki, He Toronga Pakihi ki Taranaki (Māori Business Network of Taranaki), Venture Taranaki, and Ara Ake are essential to see exciting opportunities like an Innovation Hub established. WITT would encourage these organisations to be part of a working-group to bring ideas to the table that can help create a business case and development plan for a region wide lift through innovation and entrepreneurship.

The Beginning of Conversations

WITT acknowledges these ideas are just the beginning of conversations to co-design innovation hubs in partnership with all, that lifts innovation, enterprise and opportunity throughout Taranaki.

Community endorsements

"The Taranaki Chamber of Commerce strongly supports a transition to a low emissions economy. WITT is ideally placed to be a key player in the innovation ecosystem being planned for Taranaki."

Arun Chaudhri
CE - Taranaki Chamber



"Innovation hubs would help us modify the existing infrastructure as well as open the way for development of new ideas in new forms of energy."

Joanna Breare
Former Chair of Taranaki 2050 lead group.



"An innovation hub would become an essential part of Taranaki's knowledge infrastructure, raising Taranaki's profile as a place of learning and retaining our young people and their skills within our region."

Dion Tuuta
CE - Te Atiawa Iwi



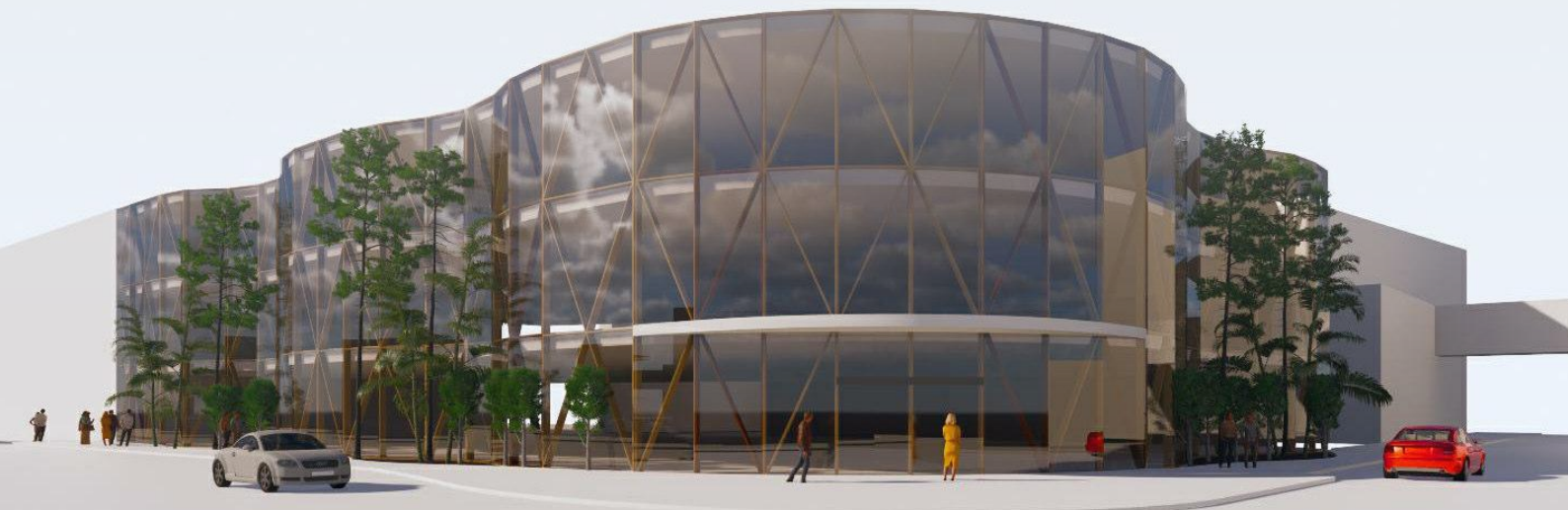
"This is a positive step forward. Bringing innovative thinkers together will accelerate our transition to a low emission future."

Cristiano Marantes
CE - Ara Ake (Future Energy Development)



"Innovation and entrepreneurship are critical to our future. Venture Taranaki is working to "PowerUp" Taranaki's entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem and innovation hubs would be a significant step forward."

Justine Gilliland
CE - Venture Taranaki



Centre of Vocational Excellence in Energy and Engineering

Taranaki will experience the development of alternative energy industries and usages that have the potential to create a range of new career pathways that WITT is preparing to support.

WITT is positively connected to many industries which will lead the transition, enabling their curriculum to maintain a level of relevance and responsiveness to those industry needs, which many other academic and vocational institutions struggle to have.

Some of the areas that are anticipated to emerge include electric vehicles; hydrogen fuel technology; renewable generation technologies (hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal etc.).

WITT is supporting the energy industry by developing a Centre of Vocational Excellence in Energy and Engineering, to provide work-ready graduates who are skilled in the latest technologies.

A Centre of Vocational Excellence must:

- Support the growth of excellent vocational education with a focus on teaching, learning and research.
- Support the development and sharing of high-quality curriculum and programme design.
- Be a consortium with expert representation from industry, the wider sector, and a range of other areas, for example iwi and vocational education representatives.
- Have a national focus.
- Be hosted by a regional campus of Te Pūkenga.
- Address issues and opportunities with a significant strategic impact, ideally with wide-reaching benefits across the sector
- Solve real problems and grasp viable opportunities.



Supporting the South Taranaki Business Park

The South Taranaki District Council commissioned an 'Industrial Park Feasibility and Initial Business Case Study.'

As stated in the Study, "South Taranaki is currently heavily reliant on agriculture and oil and gas. Both of which are facing uncertainty in the medium to long term which could subsequently adversely affect the district's manufacturing sector."

The Council commissioned the study because they saw a need for having industrial zoned land available, in the right place, to support economic development.

Economic Plans

Currently there are three economic development plans in the region. The Tapuae Roa Action Plan, the Taranaki 2050 Roadmap (in response to the Government's stated goal of net zero emissions by 2050) and more recently, the Taranaki Covid-19 response plan.

Alongside these plans to generate economic recovery and opportunities, the tighter focus of the South Taranaki Study has confirmed the viability of developing a business park to enhance economic growth in the District.

The Future of Work

The Productivity Commission highlights the need for our workforce to be agile as we face the challenges, not only of increased automation, but the changes

the Net Zero Act and carbon budgets will bring to our economy and employment. Increasingly full-time workers will need to engage in part-time study to keep in-step with these transitions.

WITT's role to work with industry to build a skilled and innovative workforce.

In supporting a business park project, WITT's contribution could be to bring higher levels of education as well as short courses focused on Energy, Enterprise, Education, and Technology.

With the workplace as we know it, undergoing change, innovation and adaptation is an essential skill process that South Taranaki people will develop.

WITT can support this journey to ensure new ideas and ways of doing things are an important part of retraining and redeploying people in the workforce.

School of Māori Enterprise, Business and Technology

As South Taranaki develops a business park and alongside this, a South Taranaki Innovation Hub, this could link with North Taranaki's Innovation Hub to support a region-wide economic transformation. WITT's School of Māori Enterprise, Business and Technology could bring an exciting contribution towards a successful business.

The greatest resource we have is a skilled and motivated people and WITT can be a supportive contributor to an enduring economic transformation in South Taranaki.



A National Centre for Sustainable Tourism and Biodiversity

Every Taranaki secondary school student gets to learn and experience TSB TOPEC.

WITT believes we have a unique opportunity to make that experience even more significant for Taranaki and Aotearoa New Zealand.

TSB TOPEC was formed in 1986 by a charitable trust to provide outdoor education for Taranaki school students. TSB TOPEC is closely linked with Taranaki Secondary Schools who form the main user group of the organisation.

Qualified teachers have always been employed and TSB TOPEC has continued to commit to helping people connect with the outdoors, providing activities, training and educational opportunities that allow for individuals and groups to challenge themselves, grow in knowledge and develop new skills.

The wider Taranaki community is privileged to have great facilities at TSB Topec, which combined with the spectacular beauty of Taranaki Mouna and the work of Project Mouna, offers the potential for Taranaki to become true world leaders in educating and activating people in guardianship of our biodiversity.

We encourage the Taranaki Business community to see the TSB TOPEC facility and their Kaupapa as one of the great assets of our Taranaki community.

Together, building the Kaupapa of TSB TOPEC, partnering with WITT, Iwi and other interested parties, we can establish a National Centre for Sustainable Tourism and Biodiversity.



Supporting the Tupu-ā-nuku Environmental Workforce

WITT acknowledges and wishes to support the Taranaki 2050 Transition Pathway Action Plan for Environmental Sciences and the Māori Economy, as in the example of the Tupu-ā-nuku Environmental Workforce Development programme.

This is a collaborative model being developed between five iwi in Taranaki and conservation organisations that undertake work, as well as conservation contract providers.

The aim is to create a clear and accessible pathway for rangatahi to undertake local education and training with pastoral care and then gain sustainable employment in conservation-related work.

WITT's work in leading the development of a National Centre for Sustainable Tourism and Biodiversity will not only support the environmental sciences and the respect and protection of our regional treasure, but it will enable our people to gain qualifications to support their career aspirations in the outdoor environment.

Underpinning South Taranaki's Life-long Learning, Upskilling and Employment



A South Taranaki Campus

The proposal to merge the Hāwera Intermediate School with the Hāwera High School has unanimous support from the South Taranaki District Council. It appears to be progressing.

If so, then the opportunity exists to also co-locate the WITT Hāwera campus alongside the Intermediate / High School campus and create an exciting continuum of educational opportunities that builds 'life-long learning' into the lives of the people of Taranaki.

Lifelong learning

Lifelong learning is the 'ongoing, voluntary, and self-motivated' pursuit of knowledge for either personal or professional reasons. Therefore, it not only enhances social inclusion, active citizenship, and personal development, but also self-sustainability, as well as employability.

WITT is committed to enabling life-long learning for the people of Taranaki and its students.

In today's fast-changing world where a person will likely have multiple careers, continual learning and retraining becomes important. Life-long learning is an attitude for self-improvement and ensures a person remains productive and employable in a world where change is creating the need for people to continue to up-skill and be adaptable.

Through the Build a Bach project since 2014, WITT has seen more than 80 students progress into a trade pathway.

Linked up learning centres

There are examples in Aotearoa New Zealand where links between secondary and tertiary colleges have been established. Such examples are the Manukau Institute of Technology and the Otago Polytech. The Otago Secondary-Tertiary college is their Trades Academy where students attend both their secondary school and the polytech.

In South Auckland, the School of Secondary-Tertiary Studies (SSTS) provides an opportunity to complete NCEA qualifications in Level 1, 2 and 3 as well as University entrance (UE). At the same time, students get a taste of various Trades and courses available at MIT to help map out their future.

Taranaki Trades Academy

WITT has been running the Taranaki Trades Academy and was one of the earlier Trades Academies to be established. It brings secondary students into



WITT's tertiary environment to enable them to gain qualifications needed for employment in the trades sector. One of the earlier projects was the "Build a Bach" programme WITT ran in partnership with Taranaki Futures.

Line of Sight

The "Line of Sight" concept developed by WITT and Taranaki Futures is where a student can see their future in front of them through participating in on-the-job experiences while still in school. It ensures their engagement and motivation is captivated by this real-world experience. When students move from theory-based learning to immersion life-experiences in a trade or profession, it strengthens the purpose and relevance of their academic learning.

The 'Build a Bach' project which WITT and Taranaki Futures collaborated together on involved more than 40 Taranaki organisations who contributed time and materials and since 2014 has seen more than 80 students progress into a trade pathway.

Proximity creates 'Line of Sight'

Having WITT co-located with the Hāwera High School and Hāwera Intermediate to create a South Taranaki Campus can create a seamless connection of learning from year 7 through to their secondary and tertiary learning and then to employment.

WITT collaborates with the Engineering Sector in Taranaki

An innovative pathway from school to engineering workshops has been launched at WITT.

After five years of Build a Bach it was time to turn the lens to another boom area, and that was engineering.

Statistics from Engineering NZ showed just seven per cent of New Zealand graduates in 2017 studied engineering. Chief executive Susan Freeman-Greene said the number of graduates needed to be closer to the OECD average of 12 per cent if the country was to make up for a skills shortfall.

The new engineering programme will provide spaces for secondary school students in Taranaki who want to be part of that boom. Students will study towards NCEA Level 2 and 3 with credits specific to engineering.

The Chair of the Engineering Taranaki Consortium board, Pat Hills, said the "exciting initiative" with WITT and Taranaki Futures aligned well with ETC's vision for sustaining and growing the skilled engineering sector in Taranaki and promoting engineering as a viable and rewarding career option for our young people.

Social Procurement across the Masterplan

Social procurement is the greatest untapped opportunity for social and cultural impact.

It's the intentional purchase of goods and/or services, by organisations that results in positive change. 'Social Procurement' means using procurement as a tool to generate benefits beyond the goods and services required.

An infrastructure development plan throughout Taranaki would do more than create exciting venues for tertiary education and life-long learning.

The WITT Masterplan project will enable the construction sector to recruit more young people across our region, giving them an opportunity to learn a skill, gain a qualification and start a career. It means the legacy of developing the Taranaki Campus's would ripple for far longer than any construction project.

Social procurement is an investment into the young people and the development of their skills in Taranaki.



New Plymouth Multi-Sports Hub

Collaborating with Sport Taranaki and the wider Taranaki Community, WITT could provide courses that promote health and wellbeing.

The Multi-Sports Hub proposal for New Plymouth creates the platform for a significant step forward in the value of belonging to the New Plymouth and Taranaki community.

WITT will have Early Childhood, Café, Restaurant, and education services to offer. The Multi-Sports Hub will have sports services to offer. Students from WITT will be able to move between the two facilities and engage in educational opportunities at both.

There will be a flow of people between WITT and the Hub, so Hub users will be able to access WITT's childcare and cafés, as well as study part-time on any full-time subjects WITT offers such as event management, hospitality catering, coaching, fitness testing, exercise prescription, community health programmes, sport psychology, Māori model of well-being, governance, social media and marketing, and community fundraising.

WITT can add value to significant community projects of scale, by offering programmes which may help people learn skills around these sports and recreational opportunities.

The Stratford Park Proposal

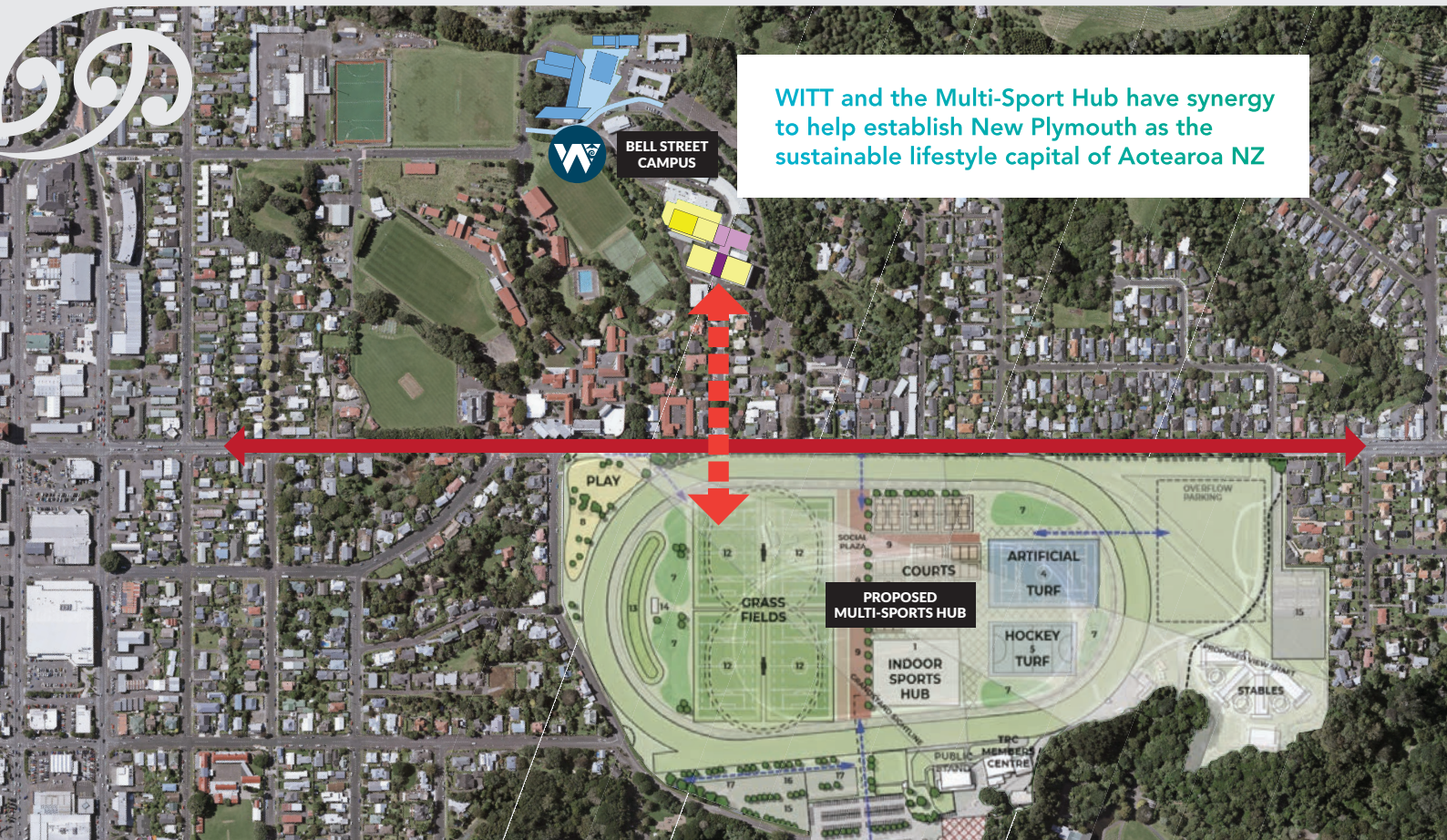
Like many provincial towns in Aotearoa New Zealand, Stratford has a great history but faces the challenges of a reducing population with provincial economies and opportunities for employment changing.

The Stratford District Council recognises the opportunity to attract more people to live in Stratford through a community led project such as the Stratford Park proposal.

The Stratford Park proposal is to develop a centre for two popular sporting codes in Taranaki, the motor-sport sector and the equestrian sector. Though the investment is significant, so are the opportunities.

If Stratford Park proceeds, WITT can offer programmes to support these sporting codes and the people of central Taranaki.

EVelocity, partnering with New Zealand's future energy development centre, Ara Ake, is launching in Taranaki in 2021. Taranaki schools will be supported by sponsors Ara Ake, Evnex and WITT, to design, build and race their electric vehicles as part of the EVelocity high schools programme. Stratford Park would be an excellent venue.



Equine Sports and Sciences in Taranaki

If expansion of current equestrian facilities occurs in Taranaki, WITT sees an opportunity to support this sector with equine sports and science programmes.

Equestrian sports range from horse racing, dressage, eventing, jumping, polo and hunting.

In supporting the health and wellbeing of horses, there are a range of speciality subjects which WITT could deliver to educate, train and up-skill horse owners, as well as people who wish to have a career in equine industries. The equine industry contributes a billion dollars to New Zealand's economy.

There are three possible sites in Taranaki. The New Plymouth Raceway has the highest number of race horses in Taranaki with a high level of activity in training, care and racing of horses. The Egmont A&P grounds in Hāwera has an equestrian centre. It could be the delivery site for WITT courses in equine sports and science, particularly in a community which prides itself for its high standards of animal health and wellbeing in the agricultural sector.

In the future, the Stratford community may develop an equestrian centre as part of their Stratford Park proposal. If that occurs, Equine courses could be delivered there to complement other delivery sites.

Professional driver training

If the Stratford Park proposal goes ahead and motor-sport tracks are developed, it could open up the way for professional truck driving courses at that venue.

The trucking industry is desperately short of drivers and is about to start a new campaign to attract more. The sector has struggled with the problem for years and hoped COVID-19 unemployment would bring in new workers. But that's not the case.

A survey of 630 trucking companies in March 2020 found more than 80 percent of them think the driver shortage is very serious or serious. One in four had trucks parked up in their yards because there's no one to drive them.



WITT's submission to the Regional Council's LTP



WITT supports the Taranaki Regional Council's plans to have a mixed fuel fleet of buses serving the people of Taranaki.

WITT believes that staying with diesel powered buses only is not sending the right signal to the people of Taranaki, that Aotearoa New Zealand is on a pathway to reduce its emissions.

WITT believes that having a hydrogen bus moving between Taranaki's main population centres on a daily basis, and servicing a new route that incorporates all of WITT's New Plymouth city campuses on a regular basis, would create significant profile for the Taranaki Regional Council as being responsive to the transition to a low emission economy.

Funding

Auckland Transport recently received co-funding of \$500,000 for a 100% electric bus and associated charging infrastructure to be used by Auckland bus operators. The Government (in their 2020 election manifesto) also signalled a \$50 million fund over four years would be available to assist regional councils.

Bus service options

WITT would like consideration for a new Citylink route that would align with the growth of our network of campuses in New Plymouth City.

A New Coastal Route

WITT would also like consideration for a new route from Opunake to New Plymouth return, that would take in Coastal Taranaki communities of Rahotu, Okato and Oakura to enable WITT students from Coastal Taranaki to easily access their tertiary education. There are a number of secondary students from Oakura who would also take advantage of a new Coastal service through to New Plymouth.

WITT recommends that a business case study be done by the Taranaki Regional Council, and following that, a trial to collect data for a final decision on such a new route.

A WITT coded smart-card could gather data for the Regional Council to test the effectiveness of the route specifically for WITT students.



WITT at a glance 2020

5,185

Students
enrolled

Gender

Female
37%

Male
63%



Ages

17% 18 years
and under

20% 19 - 24
years old

63% 25+ years
old

1,734

Equivalent Full
Time Students

1,117

Graduates

Ethnicity

18% Māori

3% Pasifika

24% of EFTS are
International

Student satisfaction

93%

Staff

293

Revenue

\$27.5m