

NEWS

First ITAC established in Tonga!

Friday 13th July 2018:

On Friday 13th July 2018, the Board approved an application to establish the first *Industry Training Advisory Committee (ITAC)* for Tonga and the Carpentry sector. The application was submitted by Ms Tracey Harkness of Arahanga Associates (NZ), in collaboration with the National Qualification Unit of TNQAB, on behalf of *Tonga Institute of Science and Technology (TIST)*.

As a group of national advisers, this ITAC comprises eight (8) local professionals from the Engineering and construction industry, namely:

1. Mr. Tevita Puloka, Managing Director Puloka Construction (ITAC Chair)
2. Mr. Viliami Sisifa, Director Kiwi (TONGA) Limited
3. Mr. Sione Tukuafu, Managing Director, Willow Cove Industries Ltd
4. Mr. Paea Pau'u, Director, Ca' bella Pacific Construction (Tonga) Limited
5. Mr. Finetu'u M Moala, Civil Engineer, Ministry of Infrastructure / World Bank/ DFAT
6. Mr. Fotu Veikune, Government Architect, Ministry of Infrastructure.
7. Mr. Nonga Soakai, Deputy CEO for TIST.
8. Mr. 'Oto Misi, In-Country Programme Coordinator, TIST.

Both applicants, TIST and Arahanga Associates (NZ), were very grateful and more than happy when informed of the outcome of the application: *"Pete and I were rapt... Nonga was also very happy indeed"*, says Ms Harkness.

This is a significant milestone in particular for TIST and the local Carpentry sector, as well as Tonga as a whole. The ITAC will be acting as the source of industry advice to three (3) new national qualifications in Carpentry which are currently being co-developed by Arahanga Associates (NZ) and TIST.

This project is been made possible through the collaboration and financial assistance provided by Australian Government through Tonga Skills.

Enquires:

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