

1 December 2009

Dear

### **Working with Private Training Establishments**

Private training establishments (PTEs) provide a vital and unique contribution to New Zealand's tertiary system. The TEC wants to ensure that PTEs are able to do what they do best in a high trust, high accountability, low compliance cost environment.

This letter and the attached fact sheet set out the context for the way the TEC will work with PTEs and explain the background to some of the key decision-making processes which affect PTEs.

They explain that:

- overall funding levels for tertiary education are constrained, and this is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future
- PTEs' performance is important, and it will matter more in the years ahead
- PTEs will be expected to take responsibility for understanding the rules around receiving government funding
- how funding decisions are made is likely to change in the future, so no PTE should rely on their level of funding staying the same each year

There will always be constraints and accountabilities associated with the receipt of Government funding, and increasingly PTEs will need to demonstrate that they are self-managing organisations that perform well. I can assure you that high-performing PTEs which respond constructively and flexibly to student and national needs, and to Government policy signals, will be well-positioned to thrive in the future.

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We've been working to make the information we give you clearer and more consistent. We will be launching the new TEC website in early December. I hope you will find it an improvement on our current website and that will help you access the information you need more directly.

We look forward to working with you in the future to deliver on the Government's goals for tertiary education.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Sharp', written in a cursive style.

Roy Sharp  
Chief Executive