

Media Statement – Immediate release 27th August

Success for Auckland Travel College and their students!

The International Travel College of New Zealand (ITC) was thrilled to be announced the category winner in the ***Auckland International Airport Excellence in Tourism Award*** at the Westpac Manukau Business Excellence awards on Friday night.

Training the people that ensure visitors to New Zealand have a great experience is all in a day's work for the team at ITC. The ten-year old organisation provides both full time and part time training programmes to the airline, travel and tourism industries. Its Botany campus opened its doors in 2005, and now trains over 200 local students annually.

The ongoing growth in the tourism industry plus a national skills shortage means there is a big demand for travel and tourism graduates. Past ITC students are working at organisations such as the Auckland International Airport, and Cirque de Soleil in Australia.

Being the best is big business for ITC. "We are passionate about the College and all that we do, and winning an award celebrates the achievement of what is very much a great team effort. It's a great accolade not just for us, but for all our staff, students, industry employers and stakeholders that work with us." said Karen Houston, College founder and owner.

"We are preparing all our students for working in the 'real world'. We have all worked in this industry and we want them to succeed too" said Claire Huxley, Marketing and Business Manager. Joint ventures and industry visits are a crucial part of ITC's winning formula. ITC ensure that all students are exposed to the industry and are given every opportunity to gain some valuable work experience to help them into the industry!

"The best thing about operating in this area, is the huge potential for placing graduates into local employment, so that they don't have to travel so far from where they live" says Kirsten Leith, Campus Manager at Botany. "We are constantly developing our industry relationships within the local area to make sure that their staffing needs are met, and our students are getting great opportunities that work for them. It's a real win-win situation".

The End

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