

**TEU****TERTIARY EDUCATION UNION**  
TE HAUTŪ KAHURANGI**11 February 2020**

The Hon. Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education  
*By e-mail attachment*

Tēnā koe Minita,

### **Recommendations on Climate Change with regard to the Tertiary Education Strategy and the Reform of Vocational Education**

The issue of climate change and the goals of the Government's Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 have not previously been canvassed in submissions on the new Tertiary Education Strategy or the current Reform of Vocational Education. However, we contend that it is both timely and appropriate to include this issue in the kaupapa of both these aspects of our tertiary education system.

To this end, we make the following recommendations:

#### Recommendation 1.

Amend Tertiary Education Strategy 'Objective Four: Future of learning and work – learning that is relevant to the lives of New Zealanders today and throughout their lives.'

Include:

*Learners/ākonga need access to education that enables them to contribute to solving the problems of climate change and environmental degradation, in addressing both the causes of these problems and the myriad effects of climate disruption and other impacts on the environment.*

#### Recommendation 2.

Add to NZIST Charter (Schedule 22 of the Education (Vocational Education and Training Reform) Amendment Bill:

*"To solve the problem of climate change we need all our ākonga/learners and kairanagahau/researchers to be aware of the issue, to be up to date with current knowledge and best practice, and to be capable of contributing to the ongoing development of climate change solutions.*

*NZIST will make climate change an active consideration in all its teaching and learning as well as in its other decision making, working towards keeping the global temperature increase under 1.5°C, as set out in the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019."*

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### Recommendation 3

Amendment to Clause 485 of the Education (Vocational Education and Training Reform) Amendment Bill.

485 (2) In performing its functions, a workforce development council -

(b) must take into account the needs of employers and employees in the 1 or more specified industries covered by the workforce development council *and (delete 'but')* in doing so must *(delete 'also')* consider national and regional interests, *including those identified in the objectives of the Tertiary Education Strategy issued under section 159AA, with regard to the Future of Learning and Work.*

### Recommendation 4

Amendment to Clause 485 of RoVE Bill.

485 (2) In performing its functions, a workforce development council -

c) must, to the extent that is necessary or desirable in the circumstances, work collaboratively with -

- (i) providers *and, with regard to all providers, require the observance of all elements of the NZIST Charter (Schedule 22 of the Act)*
- (ii) wānanga, and respect the special character of wānanga under section 162(4)(b)(iv)

*Re-number subsequent clauses*

Thank you for your attention to these matters. We look forward to your response.

Nāku noa, nā

Sharn Riggs  
**National Secretary, TEU**

Michael Gilchrist,  
**National President, TEU**