

CONNECTIONS

talent central news

Count down to Christmas

Welcome everyone to our first Talent Central Newsletter.

Our region has enormously talented people, ready to apply their skills and ambition within businesses. Equally, the region has incredibly talented businesspeople, delivering market-leading products and services locally, nationally and internationally. We know that success across the region depends on these people coming together, this is what Talent Central is all about!

The past months have delivered many new challenges to our region. The resilience of business and institutions has been tested during this time and we have all worked hard to meet these challenges and provide pathways for students to experience opportunities in workplaces. The Talent Central Work Experience Programme has been maintained with the support of schools and employers. A big thank you to all those who have continued to support this successful programme, particularly Couchmans Electrical, Design Building, Palmerston North Wastewater Treatment Plant, PTS Logistics, Massey University and Tricklebanks Plumbing.

The WorkReady Portfolio (WRP) has continued to be supported by schools with students moving through the WRP making them eligible for work experience and work place visits. We have added two additions to the portfolio, the WorkReady Course and the WorkReady Programme. The WorkReady Course is an extension of the programme that is offered in schools and provides an online course to develop students employability skills and provides credits towards NCEA Level 1 and 2. This programme is now available nationally and can be purchased by schools.

The WorkReady Programme is a comprehensive online tool to develop and enhance employability skills for a range of job seekers. UCOL has chosen this programme to support students in their job seeking at the conclusion of their courses. The WorkReady Programme is now available for purchase by contacting enquires@talentcentral.ac.nz

We continue to move ahead with new projects supporting the transport and logistics sector, the retail sector and many small and medium sized businesses in the region. None of this would be possible without the support of MBIE (Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment) and we thank them for their ongoing support and encouragement.

Talent Central looks forward to your continued support in 2021 and wishes you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Meri Kirihimete, ngā mihi o te tau hou.



Mark Wootton
CEO

Work Experience and Workplace visits



Laying out a plumbing plan for a worksite, at Tricklebanks.



Inspecting the Palmerston North Wastewater Treatment Plant.



A close up view of NZ Army earth moving machinery at Linton Army Camp.



Discussing digger maintenance at PTS.



A chance to see what is on offer at Massey - heading off to see Massey Engineering and Technology in action.



Water testing at Massey University.



If your business is interested in being part of our student work place visits contact Ron Armstrong, ron@talentcentral.ac.nz

Introducing Caroline Eden, Project Manager

Caroline has over 20 years' experience in the Adult Education sector. She has worked in New Zealand and overseas as a teacher, learning advisor, assessor, moderator, and mentor for organisations including Massey University, Otago Polytechnic, the New Zealand Defence Force, and International Pacific College. She has a passion for supporting individuals through education, and personal and professional development, to achieve whatever aims and goals they may have.

Contact Caroline
caroline@talentcentral.ac.nz



A tribute to Margaret



Special thanks must go to Margaret Kouvelis for her tireless efforts in establishing Talent Central, and taking her vision forward into the organisation we see today.

Margaret has stepped down from her role as CEO of Talent Central to pursue her many other interests. She has been appointed a Board Member and will continue to provide input and direction to the governance of Talent Central.

Margaret's work in championing young people's education, as well as her enthusiasm for economic development for the Manawatu region led her to establish Talent Central in 2016. Her passion has always been to ensure young people today are better equipped to make informed choices as to their future employment through meaningful pathways, innovation and leadership opportunities within the region. In 2018 she

became the first CEO of Talent Central. She is also Chair of the Hilux NZ Rural Games and Te Manawa Family Services.

We would all like to take this opportunity to thank Margaret for her foresight and drive in setting up Talent Central and for the legacy she leaves behind.

We wish her all the best for the future and look forward to her continued support of Talent Central as a board member.