

SPOTLIGHT ON AEROSPACE



Marlborough RSLG members site visit to the Aviation School of Engineering 21/08/2023

A new partnership between Air New Zealand (Air NZ) and Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (NMIT) | Te Pūkenga will create new opportunities for training and careers. New qualifications at NMIT|Te Pūkenga, along with the sharing of resources and expertise, will provide a foundation for trainees to move into Air NZ’s apprenticeship programmes. The Aviation School of Engineering provides training to more than 150 students annually to build, repair and maintain a variety of aircraft.

Aerospace vacancies are difficult to fill across New Zealand. Air NZ Chief Operating Officer Alex Marren said the airline currently has more than 70 aircraft maintenance roles open across the country on top of their annual graduate recruitment programme. “The collaboration with NMIT will help build a career path for students and make it easier for Air NZ to take on NMIT graduates” said Marren, “The global job market for aircraft engineers is highly competitive, and the MoU will help to ensure we are developing local talent.”

This partnership is the result of collaboration in the region. Discussion between Air NZ and NMIT|Te Pūkenga on a partnership began through both organisation’s membership of Ringa Hora (Services) Workforce Development Council (WDC). It continued via Marlborough’s Regional Skills Leadership Group (RSLG), Marlborough District Council, and the Smart + Connect Aerospace group all of whom have prioritised [aerospace as a core focus](#) for Marlborough. The RSLG visited the Aviation School of Engineering the day after the signing.

Aviation Engineering will also be added to the local Trades Academy delivered through colleges in Marlborough. From next year, a group of Year 12 and 13 students will have the opportunity to learn the principles of aviation and engineering on remote controlled planes while completing NCEA. “It allows us to begin the development of the next generation of engineers while they’re still at school and highlight what sort of high value careers young people can have through the sector,” says Te Pūkenga Executive Director, Mark Oldershaw. The agreement was signed at the RNZAF Base Woodbourne at Marlborough Airport, where much of the practical aspects of the training will take place. The Minister of Education Jan Tinetti spoke at the MoU signing to show the Government’s support of the initiative.

The partnership between NMIT|Te Pūkenga and Air NZ is a powerful demonstration of the value of [strategic workforce planning](#). With the assistance of the WDC, a training provider and an employer with workforce needs have come together in a region where the local industry, district council and RSLG are collaborating to grow and support the [aerospace](#) industry. It will address a number of key challenges that were identified in the RSLG regional workforce plan. These affect every sector in Marlborough’s ability to attract and retain staff, and also limit the career opportunities for people in Marlborough: [Career and learning pathways](#), everyone in the region is aware of [career and training opportunities](#), and [connections between schools and industry/education](#) providers. The RSLG encourages other Marlborough industries to work with their WDCs, training providers, council and the RSLG to address future workforce and skill needs.

OPPORTUNITIES

The WinePRO wine industry trade event launches in Marlborough June 2024. The new biennial event recognises the importance of wine to the region and is supported by the Marlborough District Council and Wine Marlborough. The event will showcase the latest products and technology, with a focus on bringing the industry together. The RSLG encourages the wine industry to maximise the opportunity of WinePRO to engage with the future workforce and community. In alternate years Te Pokapū Wāina o Aotearoa|NZ Wine Centre is hosting a Scientific Research Conference. The inaugural conference will be held in November 2023 on the NMIT|Te Pūkenga Blenheim campus and will provide a forum for researchers, students and industry to connect, collaborate and showcase leading research.

Construction has begun on the new Experimental Future Vineyard (EFV) at Te Pokapū Wāina o Aotearoa|NZ Wine Centre. The EFV will develop new growing practices with improved environmental outcomes to support the New Zealand wine sector. Plant and Food Research will operate the EFV and develop research programmes in collaboration with the Marlborough Research Centre, national and local government and the wine industry, as well as provide student opportunities through NMIT|Te Pūkenga.

ACTIONS

The wine industry is embarking on a major [workforce research project](#), taking stock of the current roles and skills across the sector to identify workforce gaps and plan for the future needs of the industry. A survey will open on September 25, 2023, inviting growers, wine companies and providers of industry goods and services to share insights into their workforce and what skills they need.

More than a dozen Welcoming Week events were held in the first week of September as part of Marlborough’s Welcoming Communities programme. The Council also produced a new brochure for people who have purchased property in the region so they can make the most of living in Marlborough. As a region we need to attract and retain people to make sure we continue to grow and are able to meet our future labour and skills needs. [Marlborough as an attractive place to live and work](#) is a focus area in the Regional Workforce Plan (RWP).

Queen Charlotte College held their first ever career’s week. It highlighted the range of roles in local businesses that students wouldn’t necessarily know about. The large infrastructure projects such as the Waitohi Picton Ferry redevelopment, and earn while you learn opportunities were also a focus. The [connection between schools and industry](#) are key to getting our young people aware of and engaged in local [Career and learning pathways](#). These are both focus areas in the RWP.

REGIONAL EMISSIONS

The Marlborough RSLG’s mission is to have a productive, sustainable, and resilient Marlborough economy that is well resourced by its workforce, skills, training, and talent. One of the two outcomes we want is a resilient, sustainable economy and workforce that supports carbon net zero by 2050.



-4.6% Marlborough’s greenhouse gas emissions were lower in 2022 than 2021. Greenhouse gas emissions were lower across most regions in 2022, except for the West Coast (9.8%), Nelson (3.6%), Hawke’s Bay (3.4%), and Gisborne (1%) regions.



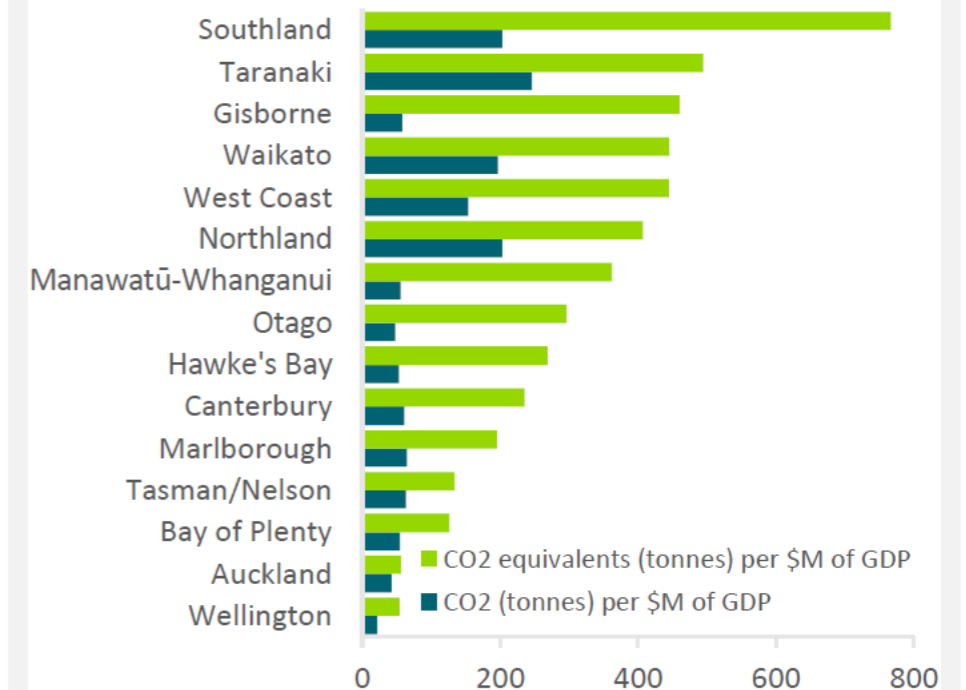
-5.3% Marlborough’s industries reduced greenhouse gas emissions in 2022. The largest reduction coming from Agriculture, forestry, and fishing (-7.3%).



1% Marlborough households increased greenhouse gas emissions, mainly due to a 2.1% increase in Transport emissions.

Wellington and Auckland had the lowest emissions intensity – tonnes of CO2 equivalent emissions per \$1 million of GDP – in 2022 due to their service-based economies.

Regional emissions intensity



Source Statistics NZ: [Greenhouse gas emissions by region \(industry and household\): Year ended 2022](#)