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State Apprenticeship Scheme 2007

Over the last few months we have welcomed ten new carpentry apprentices to the BCITO who have been awarded scholarships on the State Apprenticeship Scheme. State recognised the scholarship recipients at formal events in Hamilton, Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. The apprentice's family and employers were invited to attend by State Insurance, and all apprentices were presented with a certificate and tools from Head of State Insurance, Martyn Collett.

State Insurance recognised the need for qualified vehicle repairers four years ago by offering apprenticeships in the motor trade. For the first time, the 2007 programme will include BCITO carpentry apprenticeships.

We would like to congratulate the scholarship recipients - Hein Pieterse in Kamo, Bayden Cochrane, Brent Scantlebury from Henderson, Frank Anderson in Tauranga, Scott Donaldson in Hamilton, Allan Flutey from Tokoroa, David Kahu in New Plymouth, Nicholas Ramsay in Wanganui, Jarad Armstrong from Nelson and Shane McNoe from Dunedin.

Through the 2007 State Apprenticeship Scheme, sixty vehicle repairer apprentices and now ten BCITO carpentry apprentices will be provided with paid, on the job training while all fees and course-related costs of their qualification are covered by State. The BCITO is proud to be part of what is already a very successful programme with MITO and appreciate the opportunity to be involved.

We are looking forward to working with State on ensuring that there are more skilled and qualified people working on building sites and repairing homes around New Zealand.

Graduations

Industry training graduations are an initiative of the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs and organised by local councils. As the popularity of industry training graduations grows more Mayors from around the country are getting involved and organising graduation ceremonies in their regions. From 16 of these events in 2006, this initiative will have grown to 26 in 2007.

Graduation ceremonies give our trades people who have recently completed their apprenticeship the opportunity to celebrate and recognise their success with family, friends and employers. It is this unique opportunity to bring together all of the people who were involved in supporting the apprentice through the training which makes these great occasions. Additionally, at BCITO we believe it is important for communities to give equal recognition and status to all those who complete their qualifications whether that training is carried out within industry or at a polytechnic, university, wananga or private trainer.

BCITO has encouraged and supported industry training graduations from the beginning and will continue to advocate their importance.

To see the full list of events please visit <http://bcito.org.nz/events/graduations>

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