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BCITO Building Careers Week 2007

Promoting careers in the building and construction industry and helping reduce the industry's skills shortages were the key messages of the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation's (BCITO) third annual Building Careers Week, held from 10 -16 September.

This year Building Careers Week featured a series of information evenings and breakfast events to highlight the range of career options available to young people in the industry and to encourage employers in the building sector to take on and train an apprentice.

This year the BCITO in the Bay of Plenty region also introduced BCITO Bus Trips, which were invitation-only events in Whakatane, Whitianga and Gisborne where students were taken on a tour of local building projects to see first-hand what it's like to be a part of the construction industry.

A popular feature of Building Careers Week was the school Build-Ability Challenge, in which high school students involved in BCITO's Elementary Construction Skills courses formed teams to construct a purpose-built rabbit hutch for local SPCA branches. This year, 18 teams from 16 schools throughout the country participated in the Build-Ability Challenge.

Cambridge High School was named the 2007 Build-Ability Challenge champion taking out top prize for their outstanding purpose built rabbit hutch. Judges said the Cambridge High School team presented an outstanding record of work with meticulous documentation of every step of the process, using photos, sketches and descriptions.

Taieri College in Mosgiel received a Highly Commended award for their entry which demonstrated an innovative design that was well recorded.

The top seven schools in the competition were Cambridge High School, Taieri College, Tauranga Boys' College, Karamu High School, Palmerston North Boys' High School, St Peter's College and Hawera High School – Team Two.



The Cambridge High School team present their winning Build-Ability Challenge entry to Waikato SPCA.

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