



Media release

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BCITO apprentices receive Outward Bound scholarships

Four young apprentices have received the annual Specialist Trades Outward Bound Scholarships, from the BCITO.

The trainees are floor and wall tiling apprentice Tyrone Parson (Pettefar Tiling and Property Maintenance Ltd, Paraparaumu Beach); frame and truss manufacturing apprentice Royce Martin (Oregon ITM Frame and Truss, Mt Maunganui); frame and truss manufacturing apprentice Rory Angell (Mitre 10, Waihi); and plaster board fixing and finishing apprentice Levon Taylor (Waihi Drywall Stoppers).

The four young trainees, who were presented with their scholarship prize packs this week, will attend a specially-tailored 21-day Outward Bound programme with other trainees from around the country in September. Each scholarship is worth more than \$3000, and includes travel to and from Outward Bound in Anakiwa (near Picton).

The programme is designed in line with the Outward Bound Classic programme – the traditional Outward Bound experience – focusing on the development of self-awareness, inner strength, the ability to communicate well with others, and the respect of oneself and fellow people. The course covers a wide range of activities, from the physical challenges such as sailing, kayaking and bush navigation to social sharing and creative expression.

BCITO scholarship candidates were required to submit an application form which included outlining their aspirations for their future in the industry, as well as references from their employer and BCITO Training Advisor. Applicants also had to be registered into a current training agreement with the BCITO, be aged between 18 and 26 years at the time of application, and meet the minimum fitness level, which includes being able to jog 3.2km in less than 25 minutes.

Representative on the scholarship selection panel Simon Bailey, BCITO Group Manager Stakeholder Engagement, says applicants are selected based on personal qualities, such as outstanding attitude, enthusiasm for the trade they are working in and a conscientious and pragmatic approach to the theory and practical elements of their qualification.

“All the scholarship applicants were of a high standard and are excellent ambassadors for specialist trades within the building industry,” Mr Bailey says. “The four recipients displayed the right attitude needed to make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. We were particularly impressed with their aspirations for the Outward Bound course, as well as the strengths they will bring to the group.”

Scholarship recipient Royce Martin says he was surprised to receive the call from his BCITO Training Advisor Willie Warbrick to let him know about his selection.

“It was pretty unexpected. I’m really looking forward to going on the course – and learning more about the outdoors,” Royce says. “I’m sure there will be a few challenging activities, too.”

BCITO chief executive Ruma Karaitiana is delighted with the continued success of the Specialist Trades Outward Bound Scholarship, now in its third year.

“The BCITO Specialist Trades Outward Bound Scholarship is part of our commitment to recognise excellence and promote leadership skills in the building and construction industry,” Mr Karaitiana says. “It’s a great way to develop the potential and recognise the dedication and enthusiasm of our country’s future industry leaders.”

The scholarship programme is offered annually to four BCITO specialist trades trainees, aged between 18 and 26 years. Specialist trades trainees are apprentices completing a National Certificate in areas other than carpentry, which includes: Cement and Concrete, Floor and Wall Tiling, Frame and Truss Manufacturing, Interior Systems, Proprietary Plaster Cladding Systems, and Solid Plastering.

For more information about the BCITO Specialist Trades Outward Bound Scholarships, please visit www.bcito.org.nz

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