

Event briefing

Te Whaioranga official opening

Date due to MO: 22 February 2023 **Date of Event:** 24 February 2023

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Health Report number:** H2023020573

To: Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Minister of Health

Consulted: Health New Zealand: Māori Health Authority:

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
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Event briefing

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About the Event

Purpose	To open Te Whaioranga at the Universal College of Learning (UCOL) Te Pūkenga Manawatū.		
Event/visit details	Date:	Friday 24 February 2023	
	Time:	10am – 12pm	
	Venue:	30 Queen Street, Palmerston North	
Attendees	<p>Project team members (builders, architects, building owners)</p> <p>Health and social service providers</p> <p>Local and central government representatives</p> <p>Responsible authority representatives</p> <p>Te Whatu Ora representatives</p> <p>Massey University staff members</p> <p>UCOL Te Pūkenga staff members</p>		
Organisation	UCOL is part of Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology, the largest vocational education provider in New Zealand. They provide on-campus, apprenticeship, and online models of learning.		
Ministry representatives	Not currently attending - officials can attend at your request.		
Other information	You will be delivering a 1–3-minute speech.		
Media	Media will be in attendance. The event will also be noted in the joint UCOL/Gibbons media release.		

Background and context

1. You have been invited to speak at the opening event for Te Whaioranga at UCOL Te Pūkenga Manawatū.
2. Te Whaioranga is a purpose-built healthcare education centre in the Manawatū region that has been delivered within 12 months. The opening of Te Whaioranga will support UCOL to continue providing quality education to health students.
3. Te Whaioranga will have a particular focus on cross-disciplinary learning. It also will focus on supporting students to be ready for work which will benefit health employers and the health system in the longer term.
4. UCOL provides several health education programmes including nursing, medical imaging, social services, and healthcare qualifications. This supports the growth of the health workforce in Manawatū, an area which experiences workforce challenges.
5. By offering nursing and medical imaging education programmes, UCOL is playing a role in supporting the development of health workers, particularly as these professions are facing significant workforce shortages and other challenges such as underrepresentation of Māori and Pacific people.
6. As noted in the information provided to your office (sent via email on 17 February 2023), officials do not see any risks in you attending the official opening of Te Whaioranga. This is an opportunity to ensure the continued focus on the health workforce and the need to ensure the education sector is aware of health sector priorities and the role they play in addressing them.



Allison Bennett
Group Manager

Strategy, Policy and Legislation

Appendix 1: Draft run-sheet

Time	Details	Minister's Office notes
1000	Meet Brian Trott (021473490), Executive Director of UCOL Business Division, in the carpark of 30 Queen Street.	
1000	Guests welcomed with conch shell, karakia, cut the ribbon, and unveil plaque. Waiata to conclude.	
1020	Speeches, with support by MC Andrew Mock: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Sissons (previous CE) • Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Minister of Health, • MP Tangi Utikere • Scott Gibbons (Gibbons – building owners) • Penny O'Leary (Executive Dean) 	
1040	Catering available and networking.	
1100	Building open for tours and demonstrations of the spaces by Faculty and students	
1150	Closing of event	

Appendix 2: Speech for Te Whaioranga event

Mihi

Minister's Office to provide personal mihi mihi

OR

E ngā mana,

E ngā reo,

E ngā iwi,

E rau rangatira mā,

Tēna koutou, tēna koutou, tēna tātou kātoa

Introduction

It is a pleasure to join you here today, to officially open Te Whaioranga, here at UCOL Te Pūkenga.

I'd like to begin by acknowledging the many people here today who have supported this project – former Chief Executive Linda Sissons, Scott Gibbons, Executive Dean Penny O'Leary, my Parliamentary colleague Tangi Utikere.

I would like to mihi the many other community members, kaimahi, ākongā, and health and social service providers here today.

Through a wonderful display of community support, leadership, and dedication, Te Whaioranga was created in 12 months. This project exemplifies collaboration, kotahitanga, and vision.

Before I continue, I would also like to acknowledge the victims of Cyclone Gabrielle, and the immense devastation caused by this recent event. While Manawatū emerged fairly unscathed, I

know many of you have friends and whānau who have been affected, and my thoughts are with you.

Te Whaioranga

I understand the Manawatū campus of UCOL, now part of Te Pūkenga, was founded over 130 years ago. It is a testament to the quality of the education that we are here today, celebrating another milestone.

Te Pūkenga was formed with the intention of revitalizing and supporting vocational education, to provide a comprehensive network of opportunities for ākongā (learners) as well as increased collaboration opportunities to develop a strong future workforce.

The opening of Te Whaioranga reinforces this vision. The purpose-built learning facilities here will support ākongā to thrive and prepare for their future health careers.

Transforming our health system

We're also on a journey to transform our health system here in Aotearoa, and our health workforce is a huge part of that. Our nurses, medical imaging specialists, social workers, and many others continue to provide exceptional care to our communities and whānau during this time of change.

We know that we cannot have a healthy, thriving population without a healthy, thriving health workforce. That is why we are committed to doing everything we can to support our current and future health workforce, including increasing training numbers and supporting our Māori and Pacific people on their health career journey.

Transforming our health system is going to be a long-term process. It's not going to be an overnight fix. But, the challenges, while significant, are not insurmountable, and we must remain focused. While there are some things that may take many years to resolve, there is also plenty that we can, and are, doing, right now, that will make a fantastic difference.

So, it gives me great pride and optimism to see our future healthcare workers here today and know the many more that will come through the doors of this fantastic facility.

Closing

To finish, I would like to wish all the ākonga who will study here in Te Whaioranga at Te Pūkenga the very best of luck. You have my support and respect, and I know you will all go on to make a significant positive contribution to your communities. Your mahi is incredibly important.

To all the community members, kaimahi, service providers, and other supporters who have helped bring these four walls to life – thank you.

We're committed to creating a fairer, smarter, better health system here in Aotearoa, and I'm proud to open Te Whaioranga, which will support the growth and development of our incredible health workforce.