



WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL  
TE KAUNIHERA A ROHE O WHANGANUI

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

23 July 2020

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

### **Socio-Ecological Learning Environment PGF Application**

I write to offer the Whanganui District Council's support to the above application to the Provincial Growth Fund.

Whanganui is the perfect place to establish this post-secondary educational facility. With Te Awa Tupua having a legislated authority to codify the innate historical interconnectivity between the environment and the people who live beside the Whanganui river, this is a great fit.

Council supports the kaupapa of the Socio-Ecological Learning Environment. Offering alternative post-secondary education that empowers community-led adaptation seems timely and appropriate. Council is currently working towards its Long Term Plan, and within that our goal of preparing the community for the adaptation required to thrive in a world of climate degradation is complementary with the efforts of the Socio-Ecological Learning Environment to fore-arm the next generation.

Having met and been briefed about this project it is clear the passion, energy and ethics of the people involved, the relationships they have developed within the district, and the property that they have identified all augur well for the realisation of this remarkable project.

This project will also have a significant economic benefit to Whanganui. Obviously, the establishment of the campus will generate immediate jobs, but in attracting students to Whanganui this promises to boost Whanganui's education economy that will be significantly affected by the difficulties overseas students are having entering the country in order to attend our Pilots Academy and our secondary schools.

I am more than happy to make myself available to answer any queries that might arise from this letter.

Yours sincerely

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Mayor of Whanganui District



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