

Hon. Penny Simmonds  
Minister for Vocational Education  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6160

8 December 2025

Cc, Gillian Dudgeon, DCE, Tertiary Education Commission

Dear Minister Simmonds,

On behalf of the creative and tech sectors we are writing in regard to the configuration of the Board of the ETITC ISB.

Following the announcement last week of your Ministerial appointments there are now 4 members from the electrical industry and one from creative-tech.

From the data we have available to us, the creative and tech sector's qualifications that will transfer to ETITC will form 83% of what the ISB is responsible for. The creative and tech workforce is also larger than the electrotechnology workforce.

The balance of the ISBs board positions are to be appointed by the Board. We understood that the Board composition is required to reflect the industries the ISB represents. Even if the available final three positions are taken by people from our sectors with governance experience, the balance of the board will still be uneven.

We would like to understand the basis for both of the Ministerial appointments being from the electrical industry, and how the performance of the Board in relation to industry representation and service delivery will be overseen by yourself and TEC to ensure that our sectors receive the services they are entitled to under the legislation and Order in Council. We note that there has already been discussion in the SIRG (Strategic Industry Reference Group – also dominated by people from the electrical industry) that the ISB's funding may need to cross-subsidise industries during the establishment phase, potentially leading to creative and tech receiving less than an appropriate share of either human or financial resource.

You will appreciate that there is some urgency to this request. We hope to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,



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