

ATI

Allied Trades Institute Ltd
Quality provider of flooring training

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FLOORING NZ NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

This is our first newsletter since we are all back to this normal and from my observations of what is occurring in the rest of the world I am feeling very fortunate to be in New Zealand even if my home city of Wellington only saw six minutes of sunshine for one of the weeks in June 😊 .

WE ARE BACK ON DECK

As you may have seen in a recent BCITO communication we have been working closely with them to re-open safely our training facility in Christchurch for apprentices in the Flooring industry. I am pleased to announce that from 6th July we are back in operation and have developed a set of courses that will see all the lost time from COVID 19 made up.

Kevin, Phil and Jeff are looking forward to welcoming apprentices back and continuing to add to the skill base for the industry.



WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

It is with great pleasure we announce the appointment of three new board members, meaning for the first time in years we have a full roster of representatives from each sector of our industry. Welcome to the board:

Robert Brouwer – Dunlop Flooring

Managing Director of Dunlop Flooring Limited for the last 9 years. Previously CEO of Dunlop Living Limited / Vita NZ Limited.

Married for 20 years to Mey with 3 teenagers, and living in West Auckland for the last 15 years. Enjoys holidaying, sports, poker, movies, computers, and work.

Having been involved in NZ Manufacturing for over 30 years, enjoys all aspects of the business, working with our customers, suppliers, and our team to constantly improve our product and service.



Craig Lees – Absolute Diamond Blades

I have worked in the Flooring Industry for the past 17 years.

From Trainee Carpet Layer to Self Employed Vinyl Layer, From Training Apprentices to Finding Solutions for many Contractors Nationwide as a Territory Manager for Absolute Diamond.

Most Weekends I will be found at the local Rugby League Club (either Playing, Coaching, Refereeing or in my role as Junior Coordinator).

I am Results Driven and look forward to assisting FloorNZ with New Initiatives and Developing the next Generation of Flooring Professionals.



Ray Bloomfield – Flooring Design

Co-Director/Shareholder of Flooring Design Hamilton since 2017. Started up FD Hamilton, now one of the major players in the flooring industry in Hamilton

- Set up of a large new store, short time frame
- Developed a culture of 'Service & Excellence You can Trust'
- Successful and profitable store in 3 ½ years
- Awarded 'Top Overall Sales' and 'Most Improved Sales' at the FD Awards 2019

GOVERNMENT HELPS FUNDS YOUR APPRENTICE SALARY

For those in the industry during the 2008 crisis you will remember immediately following this, the construction sector suffered from a severe shortage of skilled resource. This in turn had an impact on our housing volumes not to mention the inability to get skilled resource when we needed it. To combat this the government has announced a funding initiative of up to \$519.8 million to **support apprentices and their employers** to help protect jobs of existing and new apprentices throughout the recovery.

All employers who have an apprentice will be able to receive a base subsidy rate up to **\$12,000 per annum for a first-year apprentice and \$6,000 per annum for the second year of that apprentice's training** through the Apprentice Boost Initiative. This will be available from August 2020. More information about the Apprenticeship Support Programmes is available from the work and income site as follows: <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/work/apprentice-support/index.html#null>

We will keep you informed of this as information comes to hand but could be a great time to take advantage of this support.

In order for FloorNZ to be able to track the number of apprentices taken on under this initiative we would like members to let us know who you have taken on and when. This will enable us to ensure that the appropriate enrollment procedures are followed, and nobody gets left out when signing up for free trades training.

FEES FREE FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

The Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund (TTAF) is now available. The fund will make training free from 1 July 2020 until 31 December 2022 for all apprenticeships and for vocational programmes within targeted areas at level 3-7 (excluding degrees) at tertiary providers or workplace training.

So, in laymen terms this means if you either take on a new apprentice or already have an apprentice signed into a training agreement the costs related to that training will be covered by the Government funding initiatives. This is additional to the employer subsidy outlined above.

ROVE UPDATE

As outlined in previous newsletters the ROVE has now been brought forward to October 2020. With the additional funding for trades training this provides the industry with an opportunity to address our skills shortages and ensure that the training we are providing is fit for purpose. The new flooring qualifications have been submitted to NZQA for approval and these should be available to base training around in early 2021. We will keep you updated on the progress of the approval process and any changes we make to training to meet the requirements of the new qualifications.

If you have any information you would like us to share on any comments or questions on any of the content in this newsletter, please contact me on kari@floornz.org.nz

Regards

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