



RECOGNITION FOR ICT IN CANTERBURY GROWTH PILOT

In a new OECD report, the ICT in Canterbury Growth Pilot has been recognised as a contributor to New Zealand's economic development.

The report, titled 'Integrating Employment, Skills and Economic Development', says the ICT in Canterbury Growth Pilot is a good example of a region coming together to strengthen a local industry that is considered to be nationally important. It also comments that the project brought together the region's tertiary educators and industry leaders in a way that had not been attempted before.

In a press release dated 13.09.2007 on the official website of the New Zealand government [www.beehive.govt.nz], the Hon Dr Michael Cullen said the report is welcome, particularly as it comes at a time when the government is working with trade unions, business leaders and industry training organisations to develop a new, unified skills strategy.

The Minister believes there are now opportunities to take this work even further and is expected to make announcements on a strategy before the end of the year.