

The future is happening now – in Manukau

Manukau's first Co-work and Makerspace is a tantalising step closer to fruition with the search for a place partner now in full swing.

The makerspace is a flagship project of The Southern Initiative's Maker City Strategy and a Request for Proposals was issued early March following several months of scoping work by TSI including workshops with local entrepreneurs. It is a collaborative project between us, ATEED and Panuku.



TSI's successful partner in this exciting initiative will play a key role in helping shape the future of South Auckland innovators and entrepreneurs which in turn is expected to contribute to growing Auckland's enterprise and innovation ecosystem. The new partner will manage the space in the Boehringer Ingelheim Building in Osterley Way (pictured) and provide services to contribute to a number of objectives.

It is our vision South Auckland will be New Zealand's first Maker City, known for intergenerational creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation. It is our goal to create an environment and culture that achieves, among other outcomes:

- Thriving entrepreneurs who are well-connected and working together to unleash South Auckland's potential
- Young people who are more resilient to harness the opportunities and withstand the challenges of the 21st century.

TSI firmly believes South Auckland has all the right ingredients to be a Maker City – an abundance of creativity and DIY culture; a strong manufacturing sector; several tertiary and training colleges; and a rich and diverse culture open to innovation.

TSI is leasing the space from the building owner and the new partner will enter into a sub-lease or similar contractual arrangement with TSI, and be responsible for all operational matters.

The Manukau Co-Work and Makerspace will provide a physical home for maker events and activations as well as a co-work space and will also energise the Manukau centre by supporting local place making activities as part of the wider regeneration of the area. Over two floors it will have room for people to build, create and tinker, a place to brainstorm and for informal gatherings, meeting rooms, a social hub and kitchen, more than 30 desks, a reception area and a board room.

TSI has committed to the space three years and expects a contract to be in place with the new partner in June with the makerspace opening in July.

Healthy Families MMP– quenching a thirst



Healthy Families MMP's strong thirst to provide Aucklanders with healthier drink options is being quenched.

The team is delighted Auckland Transport has decided to amend its food and drink policy to align with council's Food and Beverage bronze guidelines which means a significant reduction in the amount of sugar sweetened beverages on offer.

More than 100 new Auckland Transport vending machines across the city will now limit the number of sugar sweetened drinks available with only one in five on display containing sugar. The size of the drinks available will also be cut.

The guidelines also have stricter limitations on confectionary and other minimally nutritious products and have been developed and tested over the past year by the TSI team to create a tool for council and CCO staff to use when making decisions on food and drink in all council environments.

"This is a big win for us and means any further AT procurement of food and beverages for the public will adhere to the guidelines which helps build our case for making healthy choices the easiest choice," says Healthy Families MMP Food Systems team lead Ben Maw.

Meanwhile the team continues to engage with local boards to secure their ongoing support and partnership for replacing sugar sweetened beverages with water in council facilities and at council events.

A partnership with The Roots Creative Entrepreneurs and Auckland Council's arts and culture production team means we have been able to combine learnings from events to engage more people in drinking water and promote it as the beverage of choice. Water stations were created as a prototype and used at the Waitangi ki Manukau event (pictured) and produced some interesting statistics:

- 3000 litres of water was supplied and consumed throughout the event
- 1000 free water bottles were given away
- Two thirds of those attending the event used the water stations
- 100 percent of people surveyed agreed water should be provided at all community events.

Comparison table of the quantity of various drinks available currently and what is proposed under the bronze standard				
Category of drinks	Current quantity	Current percentage	Quantity required under the bronze standard	Percentage required under the bronze standard
Water & water flavoured drinks	63	23%	150	55%
Zero sugar drinks	42	15%	68	25%
High sugar drinks	168	62%	55	20%

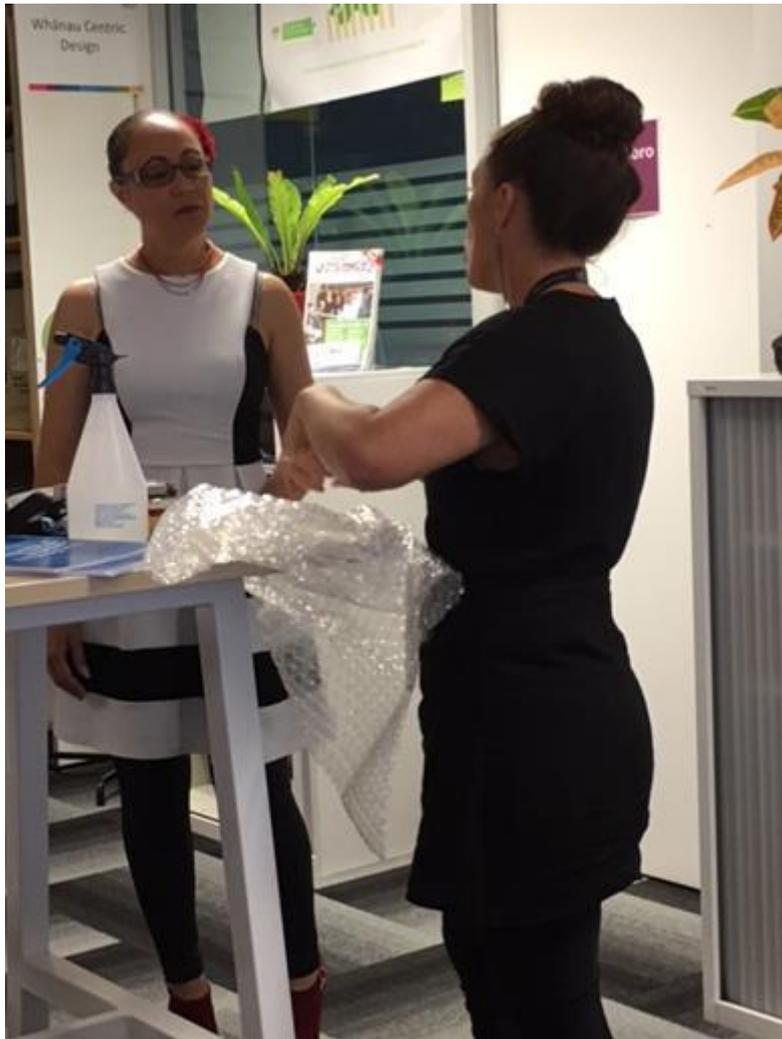
Ministerial visits

The work being done by The Southern Initiative has drawn the attention of the new government.

The Minister of Social Development Carmel Sepuloni was the first to visit late last year and already this year we've had visits from the Minister of Ethnic Communities and Manukau East MP Jenny Salesa, Manurewa MP Louisa Wall, the Minister of Employment Willie Jackson and the Minister of Māori Development Nanaia Mahuta.



TSI youth innovator Ayla Hoeta took the opportunity to tell Minister Mahuta all about crowd empowerment platform upsouth and how it is giving South Auckland rangatahi a voice.



Social Intrapreneur Angie Tangaere explained to Minister Salesa how simple bubble wrap can be used on windows to keep homes warmer and drier.



Willie Jackson and Louisa Wall were very interested in TSI's work to reduce some of the disparities in South Auckland through its partnerships and diverse range of programmes including Māori and Pasifika Trades Training and social procurement.

"I was particularly drawn to the whānau-centric approach TSI has adopted to build whānau capability, leadership and knowledge. We all know strong whānau are essential to creating strong communities, and with that, a strong workforce," the minister said.



Minister of Social Development Carmel Sepuloni said The Southern Initiative was playing a valuable role championing social and community innovation in South Auckland.

"It's wonderful to know the highly skilled and passionate people I met during my visit to the Southern Initiative are part of this programme."

He Waka Eke Noa

The Southern Initiative has been at the forefront of sustainable procurement playing a major role in the Auckland Council family's leadership on this issue nationally.

We have now established an intermediary organisation, He Waka Eke Noa to facilitate procurement work with Māori and Pasifika businesses.

He Waka Eke Noa (we are all in this together) will put the transformative power of Māori, Pasifika and community-led businesses front and centre. It is modelled on the Australian leader in indigenous supply diversity Supply Nation, the intermediary for Australia's Indigenous Procurement Policy which, in just a few short years, has grown contracts to indigenous businesses from AD\$6m to AD\$597m; awarded to nearly 1000 indigenous-owned businesses.

A similar indigenous procurement policy exists in Canada which has seen an increase from CAD\$25m to CAD\$700m in government contracts in 15 years.

The purpose of the Australian and Canadian indigenous procurement strategies is to:

- Ensure indigenous people have opportunities to share in their countries' economic opportunities and prosperity; and
- Better enable indigenous employment outcomes (indigenous businesses employ higher proportions of indigenous peoples than non-indigenous businesses) and indigenous business growth.

He Waka Eke Noa is a priority for TSI because we firmly believe Māori and Pasifika businesses are an untapped pathway for socio-economic transformation in South Auckland. Māori and Pasifika have not shared in the prosperity of Auckland economic growth and He Waka Eke Noa is an opportunity to rectify this. The construction and infrastructure businesses we engage with are delivering social outcomes (unfunded and unacknowledged) for people farthest from the labour market, more so than mainstream businesses, or other initiatives we know of.

The proposition is simple – if we grow these types of businesses they can do more. And in New Zealand we must be as bold as Canada and Australia to achieve the same level of truly transformational progress.

Meanwhile, TSI is a member of a small group establishing a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Procurement. The initiative is being led by Auckland Transport - fast becoming the country's leader in sustainable procurement - to improve capability and set standards/targets across the council family.

TSI is responsible for the greatest number and most diverse uses of social procurement in the country. Our practice has been acknowledged by an Australian expert as 'cutting-edge' and given the number of enquiries we get from councils across the country we are organising a national social procurement conference to be held later this year.

Call for curtains

The weather is already starting to get colder so TSI and Healthy Homes are getting in early and putting the call out for curtains for distribution by Auckland's Curtain Banks.

Full-length, lined curtains are vital for making a home warm, so if you have any we could donate to families living in cold damp housing we would be very grateful.

Last year Aucklanders generously donated around 600 curtains but the need is always there.

The Curtain Banks clean the curtains, line them if necessary and Habitat for Humanity installs them far and wide for families that meet the Healthy Homes Initiatives' criteria.

So, if you have any full-length curtains in good condition (please, no mouldy curtains, blinds or rails) drop them at the following places:

Ecomatters, 1 Olympic Place, New Lynn, Monday to Friday 10.00am-4.00pm, Saturday 10.00am – 1.00pm

Vision West, 97 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden, Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Kaipatiki Centre, 17 Lauderdale Rd, Birkdale, anytime (the collection bins are outside)

Greenstar Energy Solutions, 26 Grayson Ave, Papatoetoe, Monday – Friday 10.00am – 3.00pm

Habitat for Humanity, 8 Ormiston Rd, Mon – Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm, Saturday 9:00am - 3:00pm

Point Chevalier Community Centre, 18 Huia Rd, Tuesdays 9.00am - 4.30pm, Wednesdays 9.00am-6.00pm, Thursdays and Fridays, 9.00am - 4.30pm

Orakei Community Centre, 156 Kapa Road, Monday 9.00am – 4.00pm; Tuesday - Friday 9.00am – 12.00pm



Caption: Auckland Council's Chief of Strategy Jim Quinn donated several sets of curtains and encouraged staff to do the same.

Accolades for South Auckland organisation

TSI played a small but influential role when a council-owned building needed to be demolished by connecting council's Waste Solutions Team with TROW Group, a Pasifika-owned civil construction company based in Ōtāhuhu.

This impactful and innovative collaboration saw quality materials from the demolition go to a number of community organisations rather than landfill.

Great social economic and environmental outcomes were achieved and the project led to further contracts and spin-off innovations creating greater opportunities for Māori and Pasifika.

Given TROW Group is in an industry renowned for producing waste but dedicated to deconstruction and salvaging material, it was no surprise it was subsequently nominated in several categories in the 2017 NZI Sustainable Business Network awards. While it didn't pick up the big prize it was a finalist in two categories, bestowed with well-deserved accolades.

The awards have been running for 15 years and are the pre-eminent and long-standing sustainability awards in New Zealand, recognising and celebrating sustainability success.

One of the categories in which TROW was a finalist was Hardwired for Social Good, an award that goes to an organisation "consistently improving people's lives through its day to day business practices".

TSI works with organisations like TROW as part of its focus on shared prosperity which can be created by lifting the incomes of South Aucklanders through quality and sustainable employment and enterprise opportunities.



Caption: Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore, Councillor Penny Hulse and TSI's Tania Pouwhare (right) with TROW Group representatives at the awards evening.

Hosting international speaker

The Southern Initiative was thrilled to co-host a workshop featuring Professor Philip Fisher, the Director of Translational Science at the Centre on the Developing Child, Harvard University, USA (pictured).

Professor Fisher has led a project that has translated the new knowledge on the effects of adversity on children into a model of innovative change and he certainly pulled in a crowd.

The model provides a strong foundation upon which organisational leaders, policy makers, funders as well as local and central government can design a shared and more effective agenda to address the impact of adversity on whānau and communities.

It has also strongly informed the key themes of our Early Years work.

Leaders from organisations across South Auckland working in social services attended the workshop which also featured case studies and discussion about the implications of this information for policy and practice.

TSI co-hosted the event with Brainwave Trust Aotearoa with funding from the Tindall Foundation. It was the precursor to the 2018 Brainwave conference held over two days in Auckland and Wellington.

Professor Fisher was the keynote speaker at that conference and other speakers included Judge Andrew Becroft, New Zealand Children's Commissioner, Professor Richie Poulton, Dunedin Multidisciplinary Research Unit, Otago University, Hoani Jeremy Lambert, Tamariki Advocate, Deputy EC Voices of Children Oranga Tamariki and TSI Social Intrapreneur Angie Tangaere.

Angie is involved in whānau centric co-design to enable social and economic outcomes for whānau in South Auckland and her presentation was titled *Enablers for Innovation: Mana Whanau – triangulating co-design, Tikanga and science* and covered TSI's work in that area.



Takanini's green acres

The Takanini Sikh Temple community garden is impressing everyone, including keen gardner Auckland Mayor Phil Goff.

The Southern Initiative and the Healthy Families MMP teams have been working with the temple on the garden project to help feed thousands of people who visit it every week, promoting healthy eating and sustainability as well as bringing the community together.

Mayor Goff's green fingers delighted in the abundance of tomatoes and kale in the garden and he was keen to get some tips during his visit (pictured).

The garden will eventually cover 11 acres of land with fruit and vegetables, producing food that can be distributed to those in need, as well as seeds and seedlings for families to plant at home.

The Healthy Families MMP team and the Old School Reserve Teaching Gardens are working

with the temple to teach food production and MIT is running a Level 2 Horticulture course on site.



It's all go at Manurewa High

TSI has a close working relationship with Manurewa High School which is aligned with our co-design approach and desire to build a culture of innovation so South Aucklanders are more resilient in a changing economic landscape through growing maker culture.

Maker culture or maker 'movement' is global and encourages people to uncover their creative and technical abilities through tinkering, fixing and making things. It encourages people from all sectors to come together and try to solve the problems cities face, in a collaborative and open fashion.

Manurewa High has established its own maker space in a former whare and two shipping containers. The new space incorporates mobile workstations, VR glasses, a chill out area, coding station, robotics area, drawing tablets, storage, 3D printer and a laser cutter.

Its aim is to get students employment ready with the entrepreneurial, communications, confidence, problem solving and risk taking skills they need.

TSI was granted \$30,000 for this project by the Ministry of Youth Development's Local Government Partnerships Fund.



Caption: Year 11 student Rangimarie Edwards captivated Auckland Mayor Phil Goff with details about Manurewa High's new makerspace.

TSI Top tips

Auckland Council is consulting on its Auckland Plan and 10 year budget. To truly reflect the views and opinions of the city's diverse communities council's Citizens Value and Engagement team invited some guest speakers to provide some their top tips on inclusive engagement, including TSI's Co-Design Lab Director Alastair Child.

Here's what Alastair said:

"It's important we recognise diversity, and what that means on the ground. It's crucial that the advice we provide decision-makers reflects what our communities feel."

- Seek to understand how they want to engage, and give people the opportunity to shape and design what that engagement might look like.
- Create feedback loops and give people an opportunity to hear the difference that their feedback has made, but also give them an opportunity to be part of what happens next.
- Flip assumptions and seek to share power with the people you're trying to engage with. Involve the community as equal partners.

"The great thing about inclusive engagement is that it doesn't need to be difficult. People want to take part, to share their stories and to be involved. We need to create the right pace to allow that to happen."



The practice of whānau-centric co-design

The practice is constantly evolving in response to the team's learning and changing environmental factors. The whānau-centred work and the co-design process interact constantly and have their own underlying principles and rhythms.

An interesting insight is that co-design corresponds naturally with culturally-rooted practices that create mutual trust and learning and shared power and momentum.

Whānau centric principles	Manaakitanga Rooting whānau in a way that empowers them, and removes any barriers to participation.	Whanaungatanga Establishing meaningful relationships in culturally appropriate ways. Engaging whānau in a way which builds trust.	Tino Rangatiratanga Whānau has the autonomy to decide how and when they will participate. Co-decide as well as co-design.	Mana Whānau are the experts in their lives. Ensuring a balance of power.	Ako Mutually reinforcing learning.
Co-design principles	Human-centred space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a neutral, creative, empowering space Be user/whānau-centred rather than system-centred Embrace ambiguity we don't know the question let alone the answer 	Humble, curious, empathic mind set <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginner's mindset: humility not expertise, suspend judgment Empathically listen, observe, engage, ask why Seek to understand drivers and emotions beneath the surface 	Radical collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek and harness a diverse range of skills and experiences Partnership: 'Design with' not 'for' Start with lived experience Refracture the question to reflect diverse perspectives, then work together to generate multiple ideas 	Iterative learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build capability in partners as well as learning from them Start towards action; learn by doing Use the power of done and groups Build to think - harness knowledges skills Iterate and test in multiple rounds of empathy using tangible prototypes 	
In practice	Creating the space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create safe spaces - physical, emotional, spiritual, cultural Provide respite from toxic stress (e.g. a calm space away from worries with all immediate needs catered for) Reduce whānau-defined barriers to participation e.g. enabling barriers to attend, within school hours Avoid trauma triggers e.g. institutional settings and symbols 	Relationship and nurture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite people in a way that shows that they are valued Never judge Practice deep empathy i.e. listening, accepting Show respect Establish genuine, consistent and caring connections e.g. same people each time, real relationships 	Flipping assumptions and sharing power Demonstrate that whānau are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An asset not a problem Partners not subjects or recipients Co-deciders and co-producers not just co-designers The experts in their own lives not the beneficiaries of experts' knowledge/advice Professionals share power and act as consultants, partners, container builders, coaches and learners. 	Intentional skill building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deploy skilful coaching and deliberate confidence and skill building Provide 'backpedal' support that fosters independence not dependence Allow people to be reflective and to build self-awareness Provide the conditions and container for peer-to-peer learning Create opportunities for learning through doing 	

Upsouth

TSI's digital crowd empowerment platform upsouth is also being used as an engagement tool to find out how South Auckland youngsters believe we can support Māori identity and well-being to thrive and equip people for future jobs (pictured).



Upsouth is a New Zealand first and in its first 18 months of operation more than 2700 young Māori and Pasifika people, mostly aged 15-24, have signed up to the platform to respond to questions or calls/callups sponsored by community, business and government agencies who want to support a youth voice and get feedback and ideas on a range of social, environmental, business and civic challenges.

Upsouth users earn micropayments for their ideas and contributions from the sponsorship money pool supporting each call/question. Members are able to share money they've earned with other upsouth members whose contributions they like and support. This ability to share prosperity encourages and grows the give and receive process while developing empathy, soft skills and an ability to learn by being.

To date nearly 30 callups have been made on the platform by council departments, local boards, corporates and community organisations, injecting thousands of dollars into the South Auckland economy, enabling young people to earn micropayments while contributing to their communities and practicing the future of digital work.

Watch this (maker)space literally!