

The New Zealand Literacy Alliance

Presentation to 2010 ACAL Conference

9-11 September 2010

Darwin, Australia

Dr Nicky Murray

Industry Training Federation

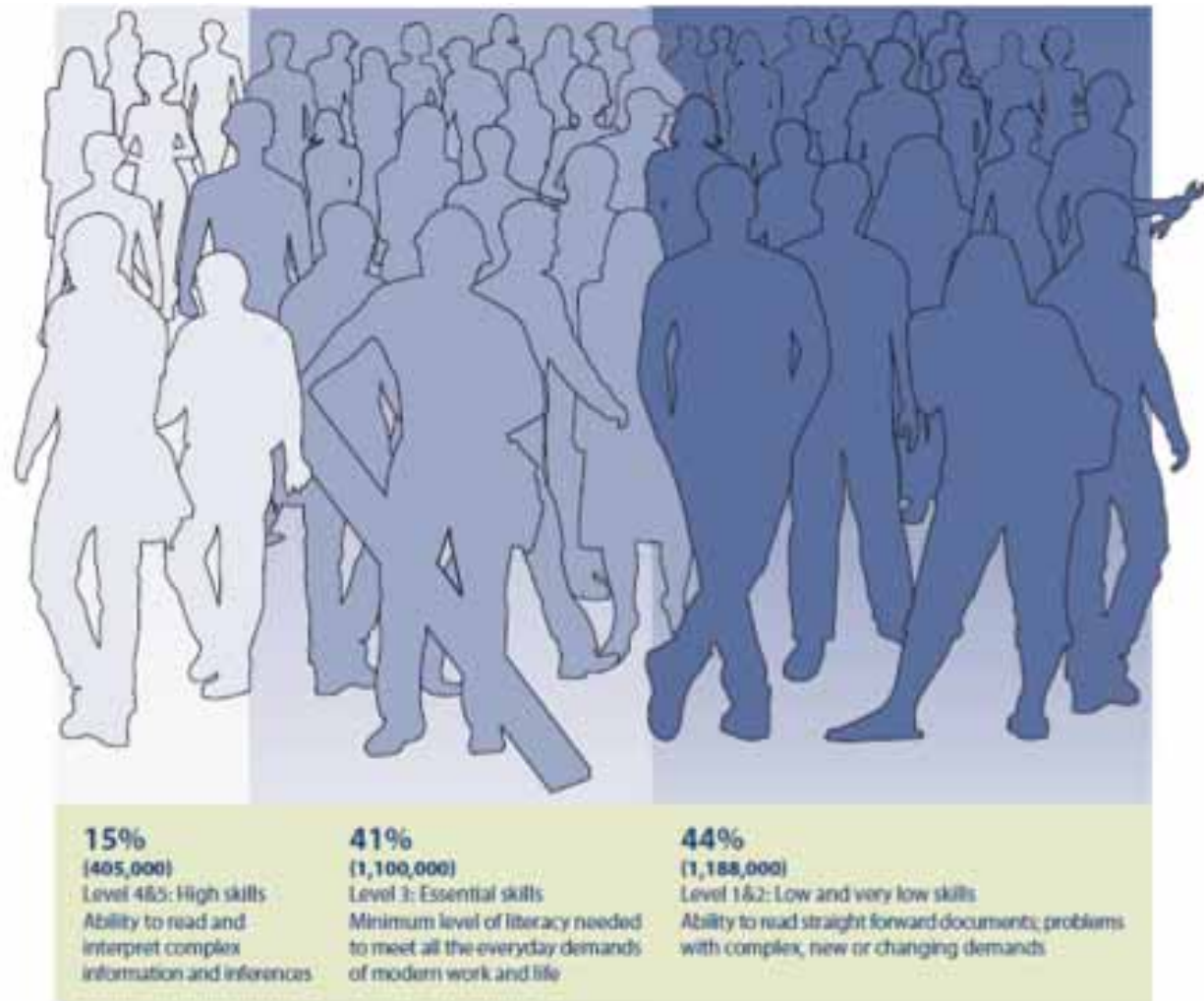
Outline

- Key messages
- Background – adult literacy in NZ
- Why was the Literacy Alliance formed?
- Member organisations
- How do we work?
- Challenges
- Future directions

Key messages

1. The benefits of improved workforce literacy and numeracy are compelling.
2. The key forces affecting our economic growth compound the imperative to improve workforce literacy.
3. A high proportion of New Zealand's workforce has low literacy.
4. The supply side for literacy provision is developing. There are considerable opportunities to accelerate workforce literacy and numeracy skill development.
5. Developing New Zealand's workforce is a shared responsibility - a partnership between government, business, industry, unions and education and training providers is essential.

Literacy skill levels of New Zealanders aged 16-65 years



Source: Adult Literacy and Life Skills (ALL) Survey: Overview and International Comparisons. Ministry of Education, March 2008.

The guiding documents



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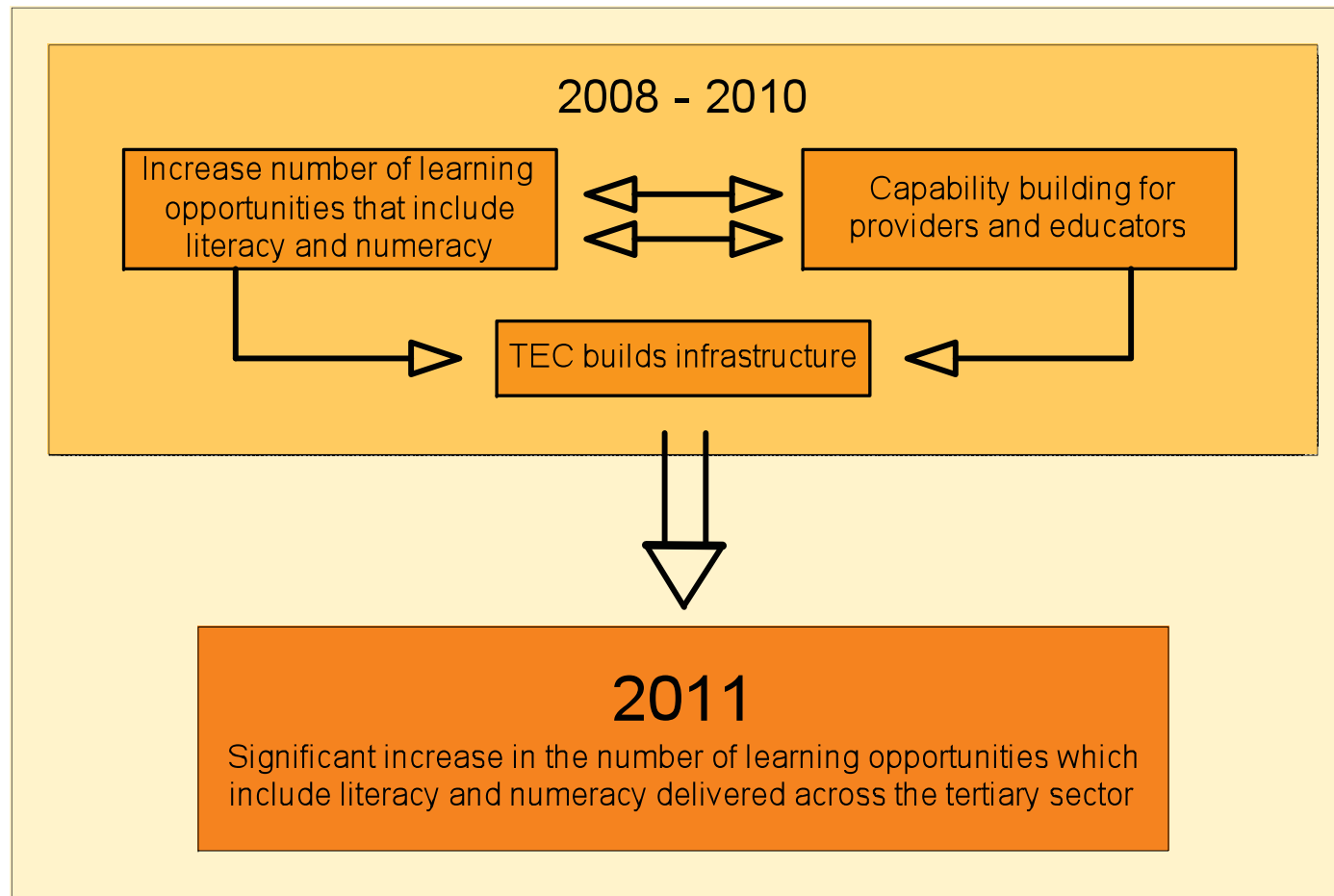
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Budget 2008 – literacy and numeracy

Budget 2008 provided \$168 million over a four year period to raise workforce literacy and numeracy levels by progressively:

- increasing awareness of employers and employees about the importance of literacy and numeracy
- increasing the number of learning opportunities that include literacy and numeracy
- ensuring that these learning opportunities are high quality
- using a programme of research, monitoring and evaluation to build the evidence base

Capacity, capability and infrastructure



What resources do we have?

- Learning progressions
- Assessment tool
- Professional development and qualifications for trainers
- Theoretical framework resource
- Embedded guidelines resources (ITO, ITP and PTE)
- Website: <http://literacyandnumeracyforadults.com>

So why form a Literacy Alliance?

Business|NZ



NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS
Te Kauae Kaimahi



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The Literacy Alliance vision

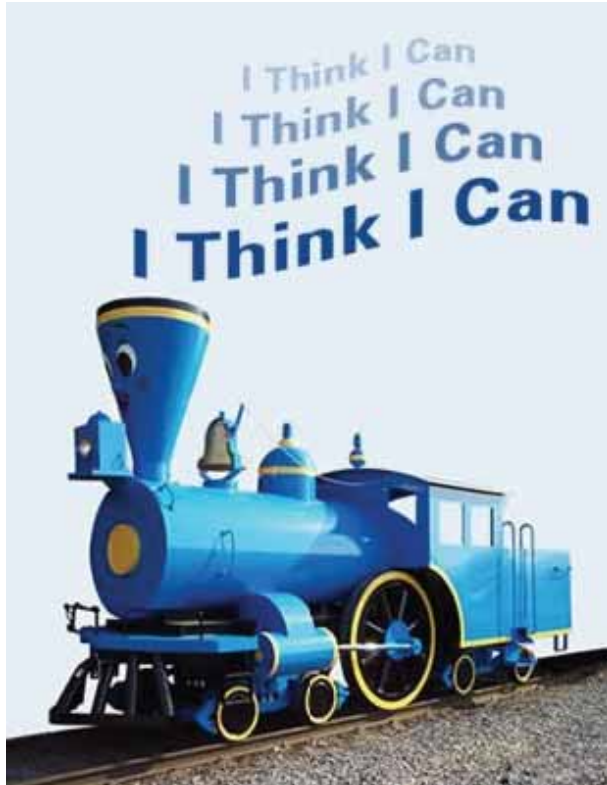
The vision of the Literacy Alliance for literacy, language and numeracy in Aotearoa/New Zealand is:

that organisational and teaching practices ensure evidence-based literacy, language and numeracy provision leading to successful learning outcomes that create social and economic impact.



AOTEAROA
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
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Business NZ



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English Language Partners New Zealand (ELPNZ)



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Pacific Island Home Care Services Trust: Graduation Ceremony

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Literacy Aotearoa



The real danger is taking literacy for granted.

One in four New Zealanders struggle with reading and writing. If you know someone with reading difficulties, encourage them to call 0800 678 910 or give them a Literacy Card, which they can pick up from your local Post Office. Because reading is a skill our lives depend on.

Literacy Aotearoa
www.literacy.org.nz

New Zealand Post



New Zealand Council of Trade Unions



Learning Reps
Akoranga Ngātahi



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Workbase



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How do we work?

- Long history of working together in various combinations
- Need to build consensus and agree priorities
- Sharing of observations and outcomes
- Achievements to date

Challenges

- Changes in political and funding landscape
- Maintaining momentum
- Building scale and sustainability

Future directions

- Leadership
- Defining and understanding need
- Matching this with provision options
- Exploring balanced performance measures
- Focus on quality of provision

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Literacy Alliance  

Literacy Alliance

The Literacy Alliance is an organisation formed to engage about workforce literacy, language and numeracy provision and management.

The vision of the organisation for literacy, language and numeracy in Aotearoa/New Zealand is: **"that organisational and teaching practices ensure evidence-based literacy, language and numeracy provision leading to successful learning outcomes that create social and economic impact"**.

We are grateful to Ako Aotearoa for funding under the National Project Fund. Their support has provided a secretariat function and meeting costs during 2009/10 to the tune of \$25,000.


 NATIONAL PROJECT FUND
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LITERACY ALLIANCE COMMUNITY

Group owner: [helenaparsons \(Helena Parsons\)](#)

Number of Members: 4

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