



Strategic Plan

***Student Association Nelson-Marlborough
Institute of Technology Inc***

2026



INTRODUCTION FROM THE STUDENT EXECUTIVE

The Executive of SANITI is pleased to present the Association's draft Strategic Plan for 2026.

SANITI is the Student Association of the Nelson-Marlborough Institute of Technology. SANITI was first registered as an incorporated society in 2002 and is governed by an Executive comprising of elected student representatives and an appointed President. The day-to-day operations of SANITI are managed by a dedicated team of staff.

SANITI celebrated our 23rd birthday in August 2025, and we look forward to providing independent support and representation for the next 2 decades.

The plan has been prepared to help shape the future of the Association and to guide the actions and the activities of SANITI. When drafting this plan, the Executive sought both formal and informal feedback and input from students about the services and support that SANITI might offer going forward. SANITI looks forward to continuing its work with NMIT, Ara and other vocational institutions in their new independent entities in 2026 and beyond.

The plan is a 'living' document which is subject to ongoing review and therefore appropriate modifications as required.

The Executive
October 2025

DRAFT

2026 SANITI ROAD MAP

VISION

SANITI's vision is for the Association to be recognised and respected as the most responsive and responsible provider of support services for tertiary students in New Zealand.

MISSION

SANITI's mission is to provide independent support, advocacy, representation and other services to students who are enrolled at NMIT and other vocational tertiary students.

SANITI is governed by students and exists for the benefit of all students.

STRATEGIC GOAL ONE

Social events to foster a strong integrated campus culture

STRATEGIC GOAL TWO

Friendly independent advocacy and support services for all students

STRATEGIC GOAL THREE

Independent representation of the student voice and collaborative student engagement.

STRATEGIC GOAL FOUR

Thriving, sustainable and future focused Student Association

HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

VALUES

INCLUSIVITY - embrace and celebrate diversity

APPROACHABLE - be respectful, kind and enthusiastic

INTEGRITY - we 'walk the talk' and lead by example

TREATY - respect our nation's history and culture

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TE REO MĀORI - foster and encourage Te Reo Māori

QUALITY PEOPLE

DEVELOPMENT – we develop leaders through staff professional development and student executive through leadership and governance training.

KNOWLEDGE – we have strong institutional knowledge

RESOURCING – we resource our people to do their jobs

TEAMWORK – we work together to achieve our goals

INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMUNICATIONS – we have smart, planned communications that promote the SANITI brand, support service delivery and encourage student engagement

FUTURE PROOFING – we look to the future and make decisions to ensure the long term sustainability and growth of the organisation

RESOURCES – the Association has enough physical resources and time to deliver on its vision and mission

TECHNOLOGY – we use technology to enhance our communications and support student engagement



STRATEGIC GOAL ONE

Social events to foster a strong integrated campus culture

CURRENT POSITION

Events

In the 2025 Student Survey students identified events & activities as an important service provided for students by the Association. In 2025 SANITI provided 43 events to all students on and off campus. The events below were spread over Nelson; Richmond; Marlborough; Woodbourne; Online/Offsite. Event delivery was subsidised from approved Association savings.

- Orientation/Re Orientation (12)
- In term events (16)
- Cultural events (2)
- Well-being events (4)
- Online competitions (5)
- SANITI 23rd Birthday celebration
- Graduation after functions (3) – for delivery in December 2025

International Activities

In 2025 the activity programme was funded for 8 activities which included:

- Social evenings (3)
- Hotspot Orientation Tour (3)
- St Arnaud
- Brook Waimārama Sancturay
- Kaiteriteri

Publications

- Student Wall Planner and Discount Directory
- Electronic information screen content on all campuses
- Integration and inclusion in NMIT Polly
- Posters on noticeboards in programme areas and student spaces
- Facebook page, 3800 followers with an average reach of 1100 per week
- Instagram page, 987 followers with an average reach of 728 per week
- Tiktok account, 20 followers with an average reach of 675 per post

2026 OBJECTIVES & KPIs

- To review the event programme and modify in response to input from students and funding allocations
- To review the international activities and modify in response to input from students and funding allocations
- Plan and deliver engaging beginning and mid-year orientation programmes in response to input from students and funding allocations
- Grow the use of social media to communicate with students about the event programmes
- To investigate additional funding from alternative sources
- Maintain the use of online and on campus communications
- To meet the Association's obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act



STRATEGIC GOAL TWO

Friendly independent advocacy and support services for all students

CURRENT POSITION

Support

Students continue to identify independent advocacy and support as the most important service provided by the Association. Demand for independent advocacy services has grown with both NMIT and Ara students. Association has also seen an increase in the request for advice from students studying through other tertiary providers. In 2025, the NMIT service provision was subsidised from approved Association savings.

Advocacy

At the end of September 2025, the Association has worked on 1,956 cases for NMIT students. In 2025 SANITI continued working with StudyLink to provide direct on-campus support for students through a StudyLink Outreach Officer. In addition to the on-campus presence SANITI supported the StudyLink Outreach Officer to visit other secondary schools in the top of the south.

In 2024 Ara Student Council identified the need for increased independent advocacy provision and training provision for programme representatives. In 2025 an additional .5FTE staff member was employed. At the end of September 2025 there had been a 121% increase in cases managed through the Ara independent advocacy service.

Employment Service

Employment Information streamlined service focused on helping students find in term job opportunities. To ensure all students could access these opportunities, the Association reviewed targeted CV and Cover letters; maintained dedicated Facebook & Instagram pages for posting job openings; and the SANITI job noticeboard. In addition to the job listings the Association ran career specific employment seminars. Assisted with other employment-based issues including scholarships, general employment law advice, and more.

Programme Representatives

In 2025 the focus for the Programme Representative system was reaching students from different programmes of study, increased involvement in the SANITI Executive and working with NMIT to promote the importance of the Programme Representatives. At the end of September 2025, we had 76 student Representatives in Nelson/Richmond and 34 student Representatives in Marlborough/Woodbourne across programme areas. During 2025 we held 20 meetings (on-campus and online), ran 3 competitions to boost attendance and conducted 1 survey for feedback on the system.

In 2024 Apprentices were identified as an area where students needed more support. More face-to-face support was actioned. We continued this support throughout 2025, night courses were visited monthly across three campuses, 28 block courses were visited between January and September.

NMIT Committees

SANITI has contributed to the following committees:

- NMIT Academic Committee
- NMIT Academic Standards and Quality Committee
- NMIT Health Safety & Wellbeing Committee
- NMIT Research and Ethics Committee

2026 OBJECTIVES & KPIs

- Students are aware of the services that are available
- Quality services are delivered that improve the student experience
- To deliver a programme representative system that enhances the student experience
- To maintain an active membership of key NMIT committees

STRATEGIC GOAL THREE

Independent representation of the student voice and collaborative student engagement

CURRENT POSITION

Student Executive

The Student Executive consists of the President, Vice President and up to 8 other students from across NMIT campuses. The Executive governs the Association and makes decisions on issues that affect students. The Executive guide the development of the Strategic Plan for future years. The Student Executive is funded through approved Association savings so they can retain their independence.

Student Memberships

Membership of Students' Associations across New Zealand is voluntary. The Association will not restrict the privileges and rights of membership to members only. Services will be provided to all NMIT students irrespective of membership.

2026 OBJECTIVES & KPIs

- The election of a representative Executive
- The Executive is aware of and accurately responds to themes of student issues and concerns to improve the student experience
- To increase the visibility and the reach of the Executive to achieve equity within the student body
- The students are actively represented at an Institute level and in the vocational education system.
- Student Executive effectively trained and well supported
- Membership
 - All students enrolled in NMIT are deemed to have the rights and privileges of Association membership
 - A member may withdraw their membership at any time by giving written notice to the Association via the President



STRATEGIC GOAL FOUR

Thriving, sustainable and future focused Student Association

The purpose of Goal 4 is to ensure that the Association is sustainable, has the ability to deliver for students and thrives in the vocational education environment in New Zealand. The Association looks forward to working with independent Institutes and Councils in 2026 for the benefit of students.

CURRENT POSITION

Throughout 2025 the Association has engaged with NMIT, NZQA, TEC and other Learner forums to represent students and highlight the role of student associations within the tertiary framework. The Association is an Incorporated Society and registered Charity.

The Association has drafted constitution changes which have been signed off by the Solicitor, to comply with the Incorporated Societies and Charities Act. Changes have been notified and will be tabled for approval at SGM 2025.

2026 OBJECTIVES & KPIs

- **To update and maintain SANITI Policies to meet the new requirements under the Incorporated Society and Charities legislation**
- **To engage with NMIT Council and staff for the benefit of students**
- **To secure a key role for the Association within NMIT**
- **To secure an ongoing SLA agreement with NMIT for the provision of services**
- **To secure an ongoing SLA agreement with Ara for the provision of services for the benefit of students**





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**SANITI YOUR
STUDENT
ASSOCIATION**