INDUSTRY IN KAWERAU LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

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Industrial Symbiosis Kawerau (ISK) members met on Wednesday 7th July to decide on becoming a formal entity to enable the group to operate in their own right.

Formed in 2011, ISK has been a 'coalition of the willing' and functioning under an umbrella of the Kawerau District Council. "This association has served Kawerau's industrial organisations well but it's time to strike out on our own." said Jacob Kajavala, Chair of ISK "We value this relationship and want to continue to work closely with the Council to promote and grow the District, and see that we can make a greater contribution through our focus on strengthening business to enable them to grow the workforce."

Covid-19 changed the landscape substantially. The establishment of the Kawerau Pathway's to Work team in the industrial zone gave employers a central point to help with the Covid Recovery support. This, combined with the co-ordination and facilitation of some of the training and employment work, particularly in the area of entry level jobs and apprenticeships, has delivered outstanding outcomes. "The funding received from the PGF enabled the establishment of the service and funding from MSD for a further year guarantees the consolidation of the activity" said ISK's Project Manager Su Cammell. "The flexibility taken by Government Agencies to deliver results for our District is appreciated and indicative of how a collaborative approach can deliver results. ISK's decision to become a formal entity strengthens these relationships and creates a unique pathway into the future."

It was unanimously agreed at the meeting that becoming an Incorporated Society would provide a stable platform for industry to participate and contribute in the proposed future developments in Kawerau. The move also demonstrates and reinforces ISK's commitment to the Kawerau community and the development of a world-class employment environment.

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