



Media Release

19 November 2009

First in the Country

Stewart Geddes of Central Otago District Council is the first of two Building Control Officers in the country to achieve the new National Diplomas in Building Control Surveying for small buildings and medium and large buildings.

The Diplomas were developed by the Local Government Industry Training Organisation (LGITO) in response to legislation that requires building control officers to have, or be working towards, a nationally recognized qualification by 2013.

LGITO contracted the Otago Polytechnic Centre for Assessment of Prior Learning to develop a pilot programme for awarding the qualifications.

A panel of experts from the building control industry assessed the portfolio of evidence from the candidates.

A total of 16 candidates from various councils attended workshops. Only two of the candidates, at this stage, met the rigorous assessment process.

According to the panel of assessors, they were very impressed with the quality of the portfolios and how they were presented.

Mr Geddes said his was stoked to get the Diplomas, and had spent approximately 150 hours of his own time preparing his portfolio of evidence for the assessment.

Louise Van der Voort, Council's Manager for Planning and Environment said "The qualification reflects Stewart's considerable knowledge and experience in the industry and it is great that his work has been recognized by the NZ Qualifications Authority.

Stewart will be awarded his National Diploma at the Otago Polytechnic Graduation Ceremony in December this year.

For any further information contact:

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