InternetNZ Funding Report

Rural Student Workshops Project

SUPPORTING THE INTERNET

Through our Rural Student Workshops Project, Gather Workshops has been able to continue to expand InternetNZ's vision to support the growth and availability of the Internet throughout New Zealand.

Thanks to $15,000 from InternetNZ in 2015, Gather Workshops visited 10 schools in 9 different regions, impacting over 200 students. The results of our tour with our *Building the Web* course are detailed in this report.

DEMAND AND RECRUITMENT

We announced the series through our blog and pushed it through our own network of teachers, NZACDITT forums, Twitter, and our personal networks of industry friends and colleagues. Teachers then applied for one of the 10 workshops through our online application form.

We were blown away by both the number and quality of the applications. We had 16 applicant schools and chose our top 10 based on the level of web design taught (some applicant schools already taught at levels above what we teach in this first module) and proximity from main city centres.

There were some really enthusiastic applications from very passionate teachers whom we were unable to include in this series of workshops. We have earmarked these schools for future workshops, should we become successful in future funding rounds.

This series of workshops generated interest in further workshops with requests for return visits in addition to enquiries from other schools.

KEY OUTCOMES, BENEFITS & RESULTS

In our application for funding, we promised that the students would:

- Have a fundamental understanding of HTML/ CSS and have built and published a basic website.
- Have a basic understanding of how the Internet physically functions.
- Learn the basics of Net Neutrality and the role of individuals in ownership and the future of the Internet.

Each of our workshops delivered on these promises. Students started the day by learning about how the Internet functions and about how they can participate as individuals in ownership and future of the Internet.

Our course covered the basic skills, giving the students a fundamental understanding of HTML/ CSS that allowed them to publish a basic website by the end of the one-day course, creating gems such as these:

http://gifted-recorder.cloudvent.net/index.html
http://powerful-stinkbug.cloudvent.net/index.html
http://orange-rat.cloudvent.net/index.html
http://blue-starling.cloudvent.net/videos.html*

*Comes with a warning: "May cause epilepsy!"

SIZE OF THE IMPACT

We were astounded by the number of students keen to participate. In our application, we anticipated that 150 students would participate in our workshops. The demand in all schools exceeded this with *more than 200 students* attending *Building the Web*. Our classes were packed with students from across year groups: the youngest being Year 8 and the oldest being Year 13.

SCHOOL	REGION	STUDENTS	YEARS
Blue Mountain College	Tapanui, Otago	24	8–11
Central Southland College	Winton, Southland	22	
Rangitikei College	Marton, Manawata-Wanganui	28	
Hawera High School	Hawera, Taranaki	20	11–13
Dannevirke High School	Dannevirke, Manawatu-Wanganui	29	10–11
Golden Bay High School	Takaka, Tasman	20	10
Buller High School	Westport, West Coast	20	
Kaitaia Abundant Life School	Kaitaia, Northland	27	9–12
Onewhero Area School	Onewhero, Waikato	22	10–13
Ellesmere College	Leeston, Canterbury	20	
TOTAL		**232**	8–13

YOU NEED TO SEE THE MAP

We covered the whole of New Zealand, from the top to the bottom. We're extremely proud to have been able to do that with InternetNZ's help.

A map of our Rural Schools Project applicants.
The stars indicate schools we were able to visit.

PROVEN OUTCOMES

Following the workshop we ask our participants how they felt about working in the industry before and after our workshop to gauge how the day has influenced their choice. This is how we measure our goal of growing the number of New Zealanders choosing to go into the tech industry as a career.

How much fun did you have today?

4.6 out of 5

Are you interested in learning more?

95%

Yes   No

Did you want to work in the tech industry before today?

57%

Yes   No

Will you consider working in the tech industry after today?

82%

Yes   No

THE BOTTOM LINE

Amount of funding sought from InternetNZ:
$15,000

Due to our main presenter, Tanya, doing a roadshow, we came in under budget for this project by dramatically cutting travel and accomodation costs.

WORKSHOP	COST
Blue Mountain College	1,284.31
Central Southland College	779.60
Rangitikei College	1,128.88
Hawera High School	781.60
Dannevirke High School	781.65
Golden Bay High School	1,214.08
Buller High School	1,026.16
Kaitaia Abundant Life School	1,104.18
Onewhero Area School	667.90
Ellesmere College	700.30
Content/Material Development	1587.50
TOTAL	**11,056.16**

APPENDIX

Gather
WORKSHOPS

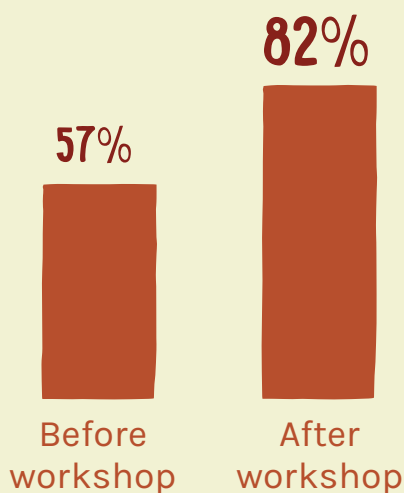Hey InternetNZ, thanks to your sponsorship, we organised:

10 WORKSHOPS
for 232 STUDENTS

"My experience today was entertaining and I would like to pursue more with tech."

THE EXPERIENCE

STUDENTS WHO WANT TO WORK IN THE INDUSTRY

82%

57%

Before workshop

After workshop

Students are surprised that after one day, something that seemed too difficult for them to understand before, was something they could actually get their heads around and do.

95% are interested in learning more.

"Makes me want to try to develop my understanding of the internet and motivated me to want to create better/more complex web pages."

HOW MUCH FUN STUDENTS HAD

YOU ROCK

❤

Thank you again, InternetNZ, for helping us share the love of the internet with so many students. Your support means the world to us!

We hope to collaborate again in the future to create even more awesome.

Gather
WORKSHOPS