

# Postgraduate Certificate in Connected Environments

PROGRAMME INFORMATION PACK

The first postgraduate certificate in Aotearoa to focus on using IoT technologies for business insight and better outcomes, everyday.



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# An overview of Connected Environments

The Postgraduate Certificate in Connected Environments is a 34-week part time, NZQA accredited programme. A practical hands-on programme that integrates business and data strategies using Internet of Things (IoT) technologies.

Developed in consultation with leading industry experts, it's designed to help businesses and entrepreneurs surface untapped insight within their environments, using IoT technologies, to create additional value, more efficiency and better outcomes.

The potential application of IoT systems and connected environments spans a broad range of industries and sectors. This programme will develop technical

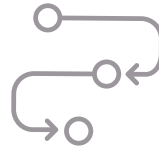
capabilities and applied knowledge in business management and governance principles. Graduates will be equipped with robust planning, design, development and implementation strategies for IoT systems that deliver better efficiency, smarter decision making and deeper actionable insight, for the business and its customers.

# What you'll learn



## Connected Environment Technologies

Learn about IoT devices and how to layer it up with machine learning, automation and AI to deliver faster, more streamlined products or business processes.



## Data Strategy

Find out how to apply a strategic lens on data gathering and insight to identify potential gains, improvements and opportunities for better experiences and outcomes.



## Business management and governance

Identify the right processes, ethical frameworks and governance models to support your business implement and maintain sustainable IoT systems that are valued as a core source of insight and action.



**Spark<sup>nz</sup>**

**IoT**

Tech Futures Lab is proudly partnering with Spark New Zealand to deliver the Postgraduate Certificate in Connected Environments. This partnership will enable students to work with connectivity hardware and have access to IoT industry knowledge and expertise.

# What you'll gain

1

The ability to  
**evaluate the multiple  
dimensions of connected  
environments,**  
how to integrate  
existing products into,  
or create new ones for,  
connected systems.

2

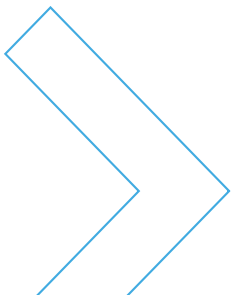
**Hands-on experience**  
with IoT devices,  
automation, machine  
learning and AI.

3

You'll know how to  
**identify and extract  
data insight**  
that adds actionable  
value for many business  
environments and  
industries, including the  
one you work in.

4

**A project roadmap  
and business case**  
that's ready for  
development  
and delivery in your  
business context.





# Who it's for

## If you,

- Want your business, organisation or agency to unearth and maximise the value of the data insight you hold.
- Want to do things smarter and more efficiently to continuously deliver better experiences and outcomes for your stakeholders and customers.
- Recognise the potential for people to be more creative and focus on true improvement by allowing technology to handle information exchange and production processes.
- Can see opportunities to improve workplaces, community spaces and environments using smart connectivity.



# Why it's important

Data is the currency of today's digitally-led world. The challenge is not to just gather data, but to tap into it to find insight that will deliver additional value to your business, your customers and the wider community.

The rise of connected environments will be exponential - aided by faster networks, slicker technology and sophisticated data modelling. Businesses must now learn how to strategically harness these enablers using a Connected Environments strategy that can create real economic and social impact.

“

The practicality of digital systems connected to the physical world is now very real - we see more being done everyday to address opportunities and challenges all around us. The Postgraduate Certificate in Connected Environments is designed to educate and support professionals to ready themselves and create solutions inspired by their own experience.

**John McDermott**

Founder of Boat Secure, IoT advocate and Industry Advisor on the Postgraduate Certificate in Connected Environments.

”

# Programme details

## First intake

18 March 2021  
34 week course,  
completed in  
October 2021

## Second intake

25 May 2021  
34 week course,  
completed in  
December 2021

## Time requirement

34 weeks, part time.  
You'll need to dedicate:

**2hrs each week**,  
4-6pm for live-online  
facilitated sessions  
Thursdays (first intake) or  
Tuesdays (second intake).

**14hrs each week**  
of applied hands-on  
self-directed learning, plus  
additional preparation and  
collaboration work.

**6 full days** (Fridays)  
face-to-face workshops,  
spaced out over the course  
of the programme.

## Location

The 6 full day  
face to face workshops  
will be run on site at  
Tech Futures Lab.  
99 Khyber Pass Road,  
Grafton, Auckland.

The weekly live-online  
sessions are delivered  
through Zoom.

## Cost

**\$5,980 (incl GST)**

We have four [scholarships](#)  
available that cover 50% of the full  
tuition fees.

- Tangata Whenua Scholarship -  
For learners who identify as Māori.
- Pacific Ako Scholarship -  
For learners who identify as  
Pacific Island descendants.

Postgraduate students  
are eligible to apply for  
[StudyLink Student Loans](#).

You may be eligible for [Fees Free](#).

This applied practical programme  
is valuable professional and  
business development, consider  
talking to your organisation to  
assist with funding.

[Contact us](#) to talk through some of the options.



# Meet our team



**John McDermott**

- Industry Advisor

John is an IoT innovator, founder of the popular IoT Auckland meetup group and a member of the executive council of the NZ IoT Alliance.

John has a mission to assist entrepreneurs, developers and users to maximise benefits and value from IoT opportunities with a goal of making New Zealand a world leader in IoT applications.

John is working with Tech Futures Lab to deliver the Postgraduate Certificate in Connected Environments, to provide business leaders with the skills and knowledge to create advantage and positive outcomes in their organisations.

John is also the founder of BoatSecure, an IoT business providing remote monitoring of recreational boats in marinas and on moorings for boat owners.

# Meet our team



**Kriv Naicker**

- Industry Advisor

Kriv is an entrepreneur, investor, senior executive currently mapping the impact of disruptive technologies and disruptive market models via the intersection of the Internet of Things, 5G, Augmented & Virtual Reality, Drones/ UAVs, Fog Computing & Distributed Edge Intelligence, Blockchain models, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning.

He specialises in Telco converged strategy advisory and planning; Strategic market and business development across EMEA & Asia-Pacific, Management and leadership of consulting and in-house teams; Programme and project management, Alliance and partner management. Recent roles include: Executive Director and Establishment Board Member - New Zealand IoT Alliance, Regional General Manager - Strategy and Business Consulting at Huawei Technologies.

# Meet our team



**Megan Rorich**  
- Programme Lead

Megan is a top notch change and project management consultant - perfectly qualified to keep us both in line and moving forward. She is an innovative thinker with a particular interest in leadership development.

Her Master's from Auckland University (where she won the Senior Prize for Management) focused on leadership within a Bahraini youth programme. It was completed while she was working as a consultant in Bahrain developing leaders in the oil/gas, banking/financial and telecommunications sectors as well as for NGOs. In 2014, after five and a half years in Bahrain, she moved to New Zealand taking up a role as Project Solutions Manager for career transition agency Career Partners - part of the international Virtual Resources Group. Both organisations are all about strategising for the future of work, which has a perfect synergy with her work here at Tech Futures Lab, where she is a key contact for our candidates.

# Meet our team



**Hayley Sparks**  
- Academic Manager

Hayley has been with Tech Futures Lab for over two years and holds many vital roles in the organisational academic quality space, as well as acting as an advisor to students to support them through their learning journey. Hayley will be the key point of contact for Connected Environments students, participating in sessions and working behind the scenes to ensure quality industry expert input into the programme. Hayley holds a Doctorate in Geography.

“

I am excited to be embarking on this journey alongside our students to explore how connected environments provide the opportunity for people, places, objects, data, and knowledge to be connected, shared and analysed to inform effective and efficient decision making.

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# Programme facilitators



**Priti Ambani**



**Rich Rowley**



**Taurean Butler**



**Felix Scholz**

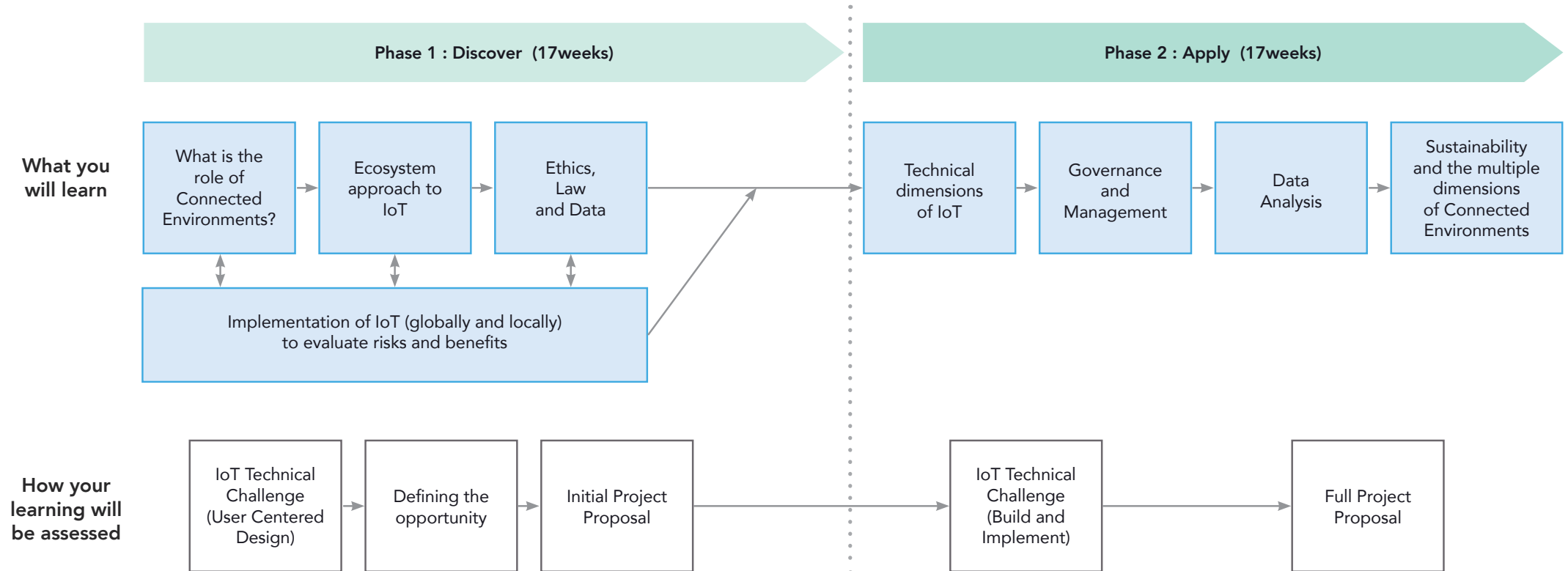


**Masha Mohaghegh**

## Industry companies consulted on programme design:

Auckland Council • Auckland Transport • Beca • Callaghan Innovation • Tether • Spark New Zealand • Kordia • Optima • Waste Management

# What the 34 weeks looks like





# About Tech Futures Lab

We're educators, but not as you might know them. We are recognised as thought-leaders and practitioners in disruption and innovation, the future of work and business. Our large partner network enables those we work with to tap into the most contemporary thought and practice in business, technology and innovation.

We're about the human angle in this era of massive technological change. How can we leverage our human potential for positive impact? How do we need to think and work differently to address the massive social, economic and environmental challenges our world is facing? How do we break away from outdated, legacy ways of doing and forge new, collaborative, regenerative practices for us and our planet?

We are committed to making a difference for your career, for your organisation, for society, for the world.

A division of The Mind Lab. The Mind Lab is an NZQA registered Tertiary Education Organisation under the provisions of the Education Act 1989. Tech Futures Lab candidates enrol with our sister company, The Mind Lab, which is approved by NZQA to award this qualification.



# FAQs?

## 1. What can I take back to my business or community to prove the value of this programme?

During the programme you will create a strategic, well-researched, detailed and practical Connected Environment project using IoT to implement in your chosen environment. The programme is hands-on, so you will work through your specific project and apply everything you learn as you go.

## 2. Do I have to be in Auckland to enrol in this programme?

No. This programme is offered all across Aotearoa, however there is a commitment to 6 x face-to-face sessions at our lab in Auckland, roughly every 6-8 weeks during the programme. See our [education handbook](#) for details.

## 3. What is the time commitment per week?

This programme requires an average of 18 hours per week, which is made up of a 2 hour live, facilitated online session, with the remainder self-managed learning.

## 4. How much of my real life experience and practice am I able to apply to my study?

We value real-world experience as highly as an academic record. If you don't have the stated qualifications to apply for this programme but have similar levels of professional experience in your life or career, equivalent eligibility is considered by our National Academic Director. Equally, your real-world experience and knowledge of your field of expertise or passion are vital in your study on this programme. You will be using this, combined with the skills and process of the programme, to build an effective IoT strategy. One of the kaupapa maori values we use to guide our teaching and learning is ako; which is the notion of effective teaching interactions and strong positive relationships being fostered through knowledge exchange. We want to learn from you as part of this process.

## 5. Are there scholarships available?

Yes. We have four [scholarships](#) available that cover 50% of the full tuition fees.

- Tangata Whenua Scholarship - For learners who identify as Māori.
- Pacific Ako Scholarship - For learners who identify as Pacific Island descendants.

## 6. Do I need to be working to enrol in this programme?

Not at all, you just need to have a project in mind or an environment/ situation you can see would benefit from implementing a Connected Environment IoT strategy.

## 7. Can you do this programme and not have a specific project to work on?

Absolutely, but you will need to develop one early on in the programme, we can work with you to do this.

## 8. Do you have to be a techie to do this programme?

No, you'll be introduced to the range of IoT technologies in the Discover phase (first 17 weeks). But having a passion for using tech to drive change is important - this programme is about balancing the tech with the business or organisational goals to deliver positive outcomes.



## Want to talk with us?

If there's any questions you've got, we're here to help answer them.

### Visit us

99 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton,  
Auckland, New Zealand

### Call us

Talking it out can help.  
Get in touch direct on **09 522 2858**

### Email us

If you'd rather jot your questions  
down in writing, flick us an email to  
**info@techfutureslab.com**

### Join a Virtual Open Lab

A great chance to meet the team,  
and get more detail on the programme.

Check our Events page at  
**techfutureslab.com**  
for the next Virtual Open Lab.