



2 April 2019

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Tena koe Peter

## **Provincial Growth Fund investment to assist regional portfolio management capacity**

I am writing to let you know that Regional Economic Ministers have agreed the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) will support regional economic development agencies (EDAs), or another regional body in each region, with PGF portfolio management capacity. The PGF will provide up to \$200,000 per year for up to two years in each region to perform this function.

The investment reflects the important work that EDAs and other regional bodies play in assisting with PGF applications, and working alongside central government to deliver these projects. I appreciate that this work has sometimes come at the expense of your other activities.

Hon Shane Jones, the Minister for Regional Economic Development, has delegated me with providing assistance on matters relating to economic development agencies and Action Plans. This investment reflects my commitment, on behalf of the Coalition Government, to improving regions' capacity to help coordinate PGF funded activities or projects on behalf of New Zealand's regions.

### *Application and decision-making process*

The application process is open and I encourage you to talk with Provincial Development Unit staff in your region as well as other key regional organisations about the unique circumstances and needs of your region. PDU staff will be able to work with you to identify and agree on the appropriate level and type of support required, including where any new staff positions would be hosted or based.

The PDU will evaluate all these applications from individual regions for portfolio management funding from the PGF before providing recommendations to Senior Regional Officials (SROs) who will make final decisions on applications.

Funding regions for portfolio management will not preclude future funding for other activities that build medium and long-term capacity and capability, such as development and management programmes to build staff skill sets.

Thank you again for your work in helping drive meaningful growth in the regions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fletcher Tabuteau'.

Fletcher Tabuteau  
Parliamentary Undersecretary for Regional Economic Development