



Polson Higgs Advice XVI – Change Comes in a variety of ways

Last week was a busy week at Polson Higgs, as we hosted the Young Enterprise Pitch Day, welcomed three new graduates (Katie, Liam and Wallace) and on Friday farewelled Christine, our receptionist of 25 years. On top of that there were the changes to the wage subsidy and a reminder that we still need to be vigilant.

In this newsletter we will cover:

Christine says goodbye

Wage Subsidy

ACC Notice

Young Enterprise Scheme

It ain't over till it's over

Christine says goodbye – Many of you will know Christine as the face or voice which greeted you when you visited or rang Polson Higgs. She has just retired and on her final day said: Back in 1995, I arrived at the door to 139 Moray Place, took a deep breath and entered the building for the first time as the new receptionist.

Since that day 25 years have flashed past in a parade of new friends. Each year brought a new group of graduates to keep us all feeling young, and though the name and the partners of the firm have changed, it has always seemed like home.

I have enjoyed meeting and making friends with all our clients. It has been wonderful to share in their stories, and learn of their successes, especially of their families.

The last few months have been extraordinary, with the Lockdown. It did however, show that being at home full time was not a bad thing, and the time had come to say goodbye to my Polson Higgs family and clients for the last time.

So today I will leave from the door at 139 Moray Place, take a deep breath and start my next chapter.

Warmest regards

Christine

From the Partners - It has been a funny couple of months, and there is a lot of talk of the new “normal”. We are not yet sure what it will look like, but I am sad to say that it will not include Christine, our wonderful receptionist of 25 years. Christine has decided that it is the right time to retire.

When I first met Christine, it was very apparent that she was going to be someone special, who would easily build relationships with her empathetic nature. She soon became a highly valued member of the Polson Higgs family, always with an engaging smile for all who arrived. We will all miss Christine, as I am sure many of you will too. From the team at Polson Higgs we wish her all the best with her well-earned retirement.

Tim Dunn

Wage Subsidy – The Government announced an extension to the wage subsidy, effective from 10 June 2020.

The key points are:

- Income reduction criteria has changed to 40% (from 30% for the initial subsidy);
- You cannot apply until the initial 12 weeks subsidy has finished;
- The basis for comparison has changed, and is much more specific. The criteria is you must use a continuous 30 day period, within the 40 days before you apply for the extension, and compare to the same 30 days (or to a similar period) from the previous year;
- The subsidy will cover an 8 week period (down from 12 weeks with the initial subsidy) and will once again be paid out in a lump sum;
- If you have given a redundancy notice to staff you cannot apply for them or it must be withdrawn for the employee to be eligible;
- The same obligations apply from the initial subsidy:
 - Pass the subsidy on to your employees;
 - Retain your employees for the duration of the subsidy;
 - Do your best to pay your employees at least 80% of their normal pay;
 - Take active steps to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on your business.

If you think you may be eligible, or would like to know how to calculate the income movement to determine eligibility, please contact your manager or email covid19@ph.co.nz

ACC Notice - ACC have announced they will be delaying invoicing as part of their plan to help reduce the immediate financial impact of COVID-19 on businesses and individuals.

Invoicing will now be delayed until October.

If you would prefer to receive your invoice sooner than later, we can organise this for you.

Please note that this does not include CoverPlus Extra Customers – you will now be sent your invoice from the 1 July.

Young Enterprise Scheme - Polson Higgs are proud to be local sponsors of the Young Enterprise Scheme. As part of our sponsorship, we hosted the “Pitch Day” for the teams in our Anderson Room on Wednesday and Thursday last week. With over 28 teams it was great to see such a wide variety of ideas and products. At a time when innovation and entrepreneurship is going to be even more important, it was fantastic to see so many wonderful ideas and high levels of enthusiasm. Congratulations to all the teams on their presentations.

It ain't over 'til it's over (with apologies to *Lenny Kravitz*) Last week saw a reminder that as much as we want to return to normal, we are not yet finished with Covid-19 and there is still the need to be vigilant. It highlighted the importance of not just having good systems in place, but also ensuring that they are being followed.

New Webpage - we have added a new page to our website and are gathering different resources for you to use. Check out [Polson Higgs COVID-19](#)

If you have a question about anything please don't hesitate to ask on covid19@ph.co.nz.

Stay safe and keep in touch.

Kind regards

Polson Higgs Team

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Better
business
together.

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