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IN OTHER NEWS

From the Media

Tidal wave of small businesses set to exit in next 10 years

14 Sep, 2017 12:06pm

90,000 small business owners are to retire or sell off their firms in the next 10 to 12 years.

*By: Aimee Shaw Business writer, focusing on small business, NZ Herald
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Over the next 10 to 12 years, about 90,000 business owners - 20 per cent of all New Zealand small businesses - are likely to retire or sell their companies. Research commissioned by Xero has found many small firms have a distinct lack of succession planning.

The full report, set to be released next month, is designed to educate small businesses.

Xero New Zealand country manager Craig Hudson said

Too Late to Build Bridges



The public of New Zealand finally got the results of the 2017 election and it looks like New Zealand will get a chance to experience a real MMP government.

Last week the Editor asked a fellow plumber the

question “who did you vote for (just being a nosy bugger)” and was amused by the answer which went as follows:

“Well I voted for the party that hasn’t lied to or done me harm yet. The National party did a lot of damage to the industry and tried to force our compliance with retrospective legislation to cover up illegal activities so I thought it was better to take a chance with a party that hasn’t lied to me -yet”

Wow! What an answer. Obviously scars left by the actions of the National party over the last nine years run deep and are not easily going to be forgotten.

When you think about the two ministers we had and what they achieved for us it could be summed up as follows - one was worried about rainbows over his office and the other was a bridge builder that couldn’t build bridges with the industry.

Not being an organisation to harbour a grudge, the Federation wishes the previous Ministers and the rest of the National Party all the best for the future.

New Minister Appointed



Our congratulations to Jenny Salesa on her appointment as Minister for Building and Construction; Ethnic Communities; Associate Minister of Education; Health; Housing and Urban Development and for being part of the new Labour lead coalition.

We download a few details from the parliamentary website to keep you up to date.

the shocking statistic - and the lack of planning - was a cause for concern.

He said most small firms only focused on the present, but agriculture businesses had picked up on the need to plan ahead.

"The agriculture world have done this really well; they've seen that there's a big issue because their daughters and sons aren't wanting to get in and take over the family farm, so they've been fronting that for the last five-plus years, but with traditional business there hasn't been a focus on it," he said.

"We've got a whole heap of baby boomers starting to come out of work life and looking to retire as the statistics say, and that's kind of scary that 90,000 businesses in New Zealand are looking to get out of business shortly.

"Small businesses need to step up and start planning for long term now, Hudson said.

"Get your books in order; make sure you're checking in with your local business advisor, accountant and starting talk about what is your potential exit strategy and what your business today look like value-wise.

"You need to be having these hard conversations now so that you can be looking to the future."

Those of us that have been in the industry for a while will know this is going to affect our industry as well and we also know plumbing businesses are very seldom

MP for Manukau East

Spokesperson for Skills and Training

Associate Education Spokesperson

Associate Health Spokesperson

Associate Employment Spokesperson

Jenny is committed to representing the people of Manukau East in Parliament. She is a strong advocate for a fair and just society as well as opportunities for all New Zealanders. She will bring to Parliament a wealth of public sector experience and a strong background in advocacy and development.

Jenny has 20 years experience in policy, as a health specialist, as a funder and senior official in the Health and Education sectors. Jenny was formerly the Principal Advisor Pacific at the Tertiary Education Commission. She also has grassroots community development experience gained as one of the founders of a community health provider in Auckland as well as through her involvement in implementing and spreading to other cities an evidence-based health initiative developed in the American state of Michigan.

Career Highlights

- *Principal Advisor Pacific, Tertiary Education Commission*
- *Chair, Ha'apai Relief Committee*
- *Elected Member, Mt Wellington Licensing Trust*
- *Voluntary Community Organiser for the Obama Campaign*
- *Founding President, Pacific Island Law Students' Association, University of Auckland*
- *Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws, University of Auckland*

More investment in training needed to fix housing shortage

Posted by Jenny Salesa on March 22, 2017

Construction firms are reporting it is harder to find skilled workers, showing the Government's failure to invest in training is contributing to the housing crisis, says Labour's Skills and Training spokesperson Jenny Salesa.

"The construction industry is finding it hard to get the workers it needs with 58% of firms reporting vacancies in hard-to-fill jobs, according to Statistics New Zealand. Since 2008, the number of people training in building-related qualifications has risen by just 7%, despite surging demand for houses.

"We need to build a lot more houses, and that means a lot more construction workers. Labour will introduce Dole for Apprenticeships

sold; they just downsize and close down.

Labour Day



Labour Day celebrating the conception of the 40 hour week has been and gone for another year - and yes it rained as usual.

We looked at an article about Labour Day and it really got us thinking about the battle for the 40 hour week and how that affects our industry.

Due to the skilled tradesman shortage most people work more than 40 hours, and then of course there are the small business owners who work more than 40 hours as a matter of course.

It would seem that working 40 hours a week in our industry on average would be seen as part time work.

Have we gone in a big circle where we are back to 60 hour weeks?

What are your views?

to incentivise construction firms to take on apprentices. We'll also make three years' tertiary education and training fees free, which will help more people get the qualifications the construction industry needs.

"National passed up a golden opportunity to expand and upskill our construction workforce following the Canterbury earthquakes. Instead, they chose to rely on imported labour. If we had built up our construction workforce then, we would now have the people we need to meet the demand for new houses nationwide and fill the housing shortage.

"The shortage of skilled workers is driving up build costs, and contributing to reports of shoddy building work.

"Because of National's failure to invest in our people, the housing shortage stands at 60,000 and is growing by over 1,000 houses a month. National hasn't got a clue what to do. The housing shortage is driving up rents and mortgage payments, eating up the small wage increases families are getting.

"Training and upskilling our construction workforce is a key plank of Labour's comprehensive housing plan. It will facilitate our 100,000 house KiwiBuild plan and our commitment to building thousands more state houses," says Jenny Salesa.

The Federation will be requesting a meeting with the new Minister so we can get some go forward for change.

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