

Hon Kris Faafoi

Minister of Justice
Minister for Broadcasting and Media
Minister of Immigration



10 MAY 2021

MPOL 227

Paul Jacques-Mignault
fyi-request-14791-14a4484c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Paul,

Thank you for your email of 28 February suggesting the creation of a new visa program for technology professionals seeking residency in New Zealand.

The New Zealand Residence Programme focusses on bringing in skilled workers and business people, as well as supporting rights of New Zealanders to form families and fulfilling humanitarian commitments. We recognise the importance of highly skilled professionals, including those in the technology sector, in meeting New Zealand's labour market needs and for growing the economy.

While we are not currently considering introducing a technology-specific residence category, I have announced that there will be a review of the Skilled Migrant Category to begin later this year. This review will assess whether the settings for the Skilled Migrant Category are fit-for-purpose to meet New Zealand's skills needs over the medium- and long-term.

You may also be pleased to hear that we want to make the most of the opportunity provided by our currently closed border, to consider how our immigration settings can best contribute to New Zealand once the border reopens. I am expecting to have more to say about this in the coming weeks.

Thank you for writing and take care.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kris Faafoi', written over a faint circular stamp.

Hon Kris Faafoi
Minister of Immigration