

## Sarah Schaw granted \$4000 Scholarship!

When an opportunity appeared in my inbox late last year, I just couldn't ignore it! NZ Certified Builders informed all NZCB members of a scholarship being offered by Woman & Leadership NZ. I read the information and was intrigued, and so the application process began. I found out in early December that I had been accepted into the program and granted a \$4,000.00 scholarship!

This means that from 29 January 2018, I will be completing the Executive Ready Program, which is just one of the programs run by Women & Leadership Australia & New Zealand, and facilitated by Monash University in Melbourne. The program focuses on blended learning, meaning I complete face to face workshops, online webinars, coaching sessions and discussion boards. The program counts towards 50% of Monash University's Masters of Education and Masters of Leadership, so at the end of the program I could decide to carry on and complete the remaining 50% of either of these Masters degrees.

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The program focuses on current mid-level leaders exploring their own strengths, areas for development and opportunities to relate to building and maintaining highly effective teams. It covers seven modules ranging from Leadership & Authenticity, through Team Dynamics and Driving Performance all the way to Purpose, Priorities and Professional Development.

Schaw Building was a company pretty much born of desperation in 2010, at the peak of the recession when Marcus was laid off twice in six months. We have weathered the last seven years along with the majority of other SME's in New Zealand, and we currently proudly employ nine full time staff. It has been a combination of sheer determination, Marcus' building skills and my university and work history that has got us here. I am beyond excited to have been given the opportunity to further my knowledge of what it means to lead a team, and to collaborate with other women across a number of industries. I am hopeful that the experience I receive completing the course will help immensely with the continued growth of Schaw Building and will set us apart from our competitors.