

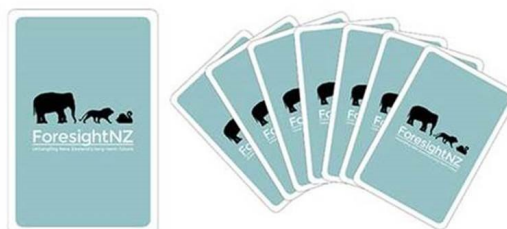
## MCGUINNESS INSTITUTE MEDIA RELEASE – 26 APRIL 2016

### *ForesightNZ: Untangling New Zealand's long-term future workshop begins tomorrow*



The McGuinness Institute is pleased to welcome the thirty-six young New Zealanders who have arrived in Wellington to attend the *ForesightNZ* workshop. The workshop participants are all aged between 18 and 25 and represent hometowns throughout the country, from the Far North to Southland. The workshop is being held at the New Zealand Treasury from 27 to 29 April, with the purpose of considering the possible futures of our country over the next 40 years.

The workshop will not only enable young New Zealanders to gain an insight into the machinery of government, but will also enable Treasury officials to hear a youth perspective before finalising their *Statement on New Zealand's Long-Term Fiscal Position* (due later this year). According to Wendy McGuinness, 'the primary focus of the workshop is to develop a way to deal with the increasing complexity and uncertainty in the world around us.' The workshop will achieve this through the creation of a robust foresight tool in the form of a card game. Participants will decide on 52 cards that they believe might significantly shape New Zealand's long-term future.



McGuinness wants participants 'to see connections between events and trends, and therefore to envision plausible and thought-provoking stories about how the future might unfold. We also want to see them develop strategic knowledge about how a range of scenarios might together shape their thinking in terms of what New Zealand should focus on today to improve outcomes over the long term.' If the card game proves a successful tool, we hope to make it available to a wider audience. Sitting alongside the card game will be a workshop booklet outlining the thinking of participants - why these events and trends were selected and what these multiple scenarios tell us about how New Zealand should position itself now for the range of futures ahead.

ForesightNZ is an initiative of the McGuinness Institute in collaboration with the New Zealand Treasury.

#### **About the McGuinness Institute:**

The McGuinness Institute is a non-partisan think tank working towards a sustainable future, contributing strategic foresight through evidence-based research and policy analysis. We endeavour to undertake research that is independent, innovative and relevant in an educational, professional and ethical manner.

#### **Links of interest:**

ForesightNZ website: [www.foresightnz.org](http://www.foresightnz.org)

McGuinness Institute website: [www.mcguinnessinstitute.org](http://www.mcguinnessinstitute.org)

#### **For further information please contact:**

Wendy McGuinness

Chief Executive McGuinness Institute

+64 4 499 8888, 021 781 200

[wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org](mailto:wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org)

[www.mcguinnessinstitute.org](http://www.mcguinnessinstitute.org)