

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Saturday 15 August 2020

## Jono Dean, CEO RAL:

Whanganui DHB advised RAL yesterday that a confirmed Covid-19 case from the Auckland cluster visited Tūroa ski field on Sunday 9 August.

Following this advice two RAL staff self-isolated and were tested for COVID-19. They have received their results and are NEGATIVE for COVID-19.

Public Health officials have advised that the interactions any of our staff have had with this person are **NOT** considered to meet the definition of "close contact".

The person above also visited Whakapapa Ski Area on Saturday the 8 August but was considered pre-symptomatic and so unlikely to be infectious at this time, because of this the DHB have advised that there is no cause for concern or action beyond our current Level 2 protocols, which we are of course following and asking visitors to the mountain to follow as well.

Deep cleaning and thorough cleaning routines are also being done and both Turoa and Whakapapa ski fields remain open.

We have had direct instructions from the Ministry of Health and Wanganui DHB that if our crew are not symptomatic then they are safe to be at work, therefore we remain confident that we are following best practice.

We will be encouraging all staff to wear masks towards the same goal of preventing any possible spread.

While we are in Level 2 we remain open and we advise visitors to check the Mt Ruapehu website for the latest updates before heading up the mountain and if people are unwell to stay home.

Check <u>www.mtruapehu.com</u> and Facebook for the latest updates

## **ENDS**

Tracey Mehrtens Accento PR tracey@accento.nz Jono Dean RAL jdean@mtruapehu.com