



New Zealand Winegrowers welcomes increase in seasonal workers

New Zealand Winegrowers welcomes the increase in the number of seasonal workers under the Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme announced by Social Development Minister Carmel Sepuloni and Immigration Minister Iain Lees-Galloway today.

An increase in 1,750 RSE workers for the 2018-19 season will help support the wine industry during its peak times said Jeffrey Clarke, General Manager Advocacy at New Zealand Winegrowers.

“There’s a huge demand for labour during vintage and pruning. Although the wine industry is focused on placing Kiwis into work, there is often a shortfall and RSE workers ease some of that pressure.”

“The access to labour through the RSE scheme over the last 11 years has supported the wine industry and contributed to export growth. We also recognise that the RSE scheme comes with responsibilities towards the RSE workers and we take these very seriously.”

New Zealand wine exports are valued at \$1.72 billion for the year to the end of September 2018.

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