

Community & Services Committee
12 November 2024
Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [5]

Title | Taitara : Chair's Report

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to provide the Community & Services Committee with an update on projects of interest.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That the Community & Services Committee:

1. **Note** the contents of this report.

Prepared by:



Name: Craig Ferguson

Title: Chair, Community & Services Committee

4 November 2024

Context | Horopaki

Sport and Recreation

Ballantyne Road

1. Approval has been given by Council to enter into an agreement with Willowridge Developments Limited to remediate, fill and grass the entire 20ha site at the Ballantyne Road Oxidation ponds site.

Sport Clubs Working Group

2. In response to the number of sports & recreation related Long term Plan (LTP) submissions a working group consisting of Sport Central, key Wānaka sporting clubs and representatives from the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board are meeting on the 27 November to discuss sporting facilities planning.

Paetara Aspiring Central

3. Paetara Aspiring Central celebrated its one year birthday. The Centre has built on the success of the first year with established programmes and operation of the centres two key tenants. The milestone celebration was hosted on 19 October 2024 and enjoyed by the members of community who attended.
4. Paetara Aspiring Central Facility Manager Gabriela Flessak is a national finalist in the Skills Active/Te Mahi Ako Apprentice of the year awards to be judged on 1 November 2024. Gabriela has completed her Level 4 Facility Operations course which will complement her existing skill set and provide another step for her career.

Winner of Senior Support category of The Spirit of The Wakatipu for Leisurely's

5. The programme targets seniors in our community, aiming to increase physical activity and connection through a large range of fitness classes and social events. The programme now attracts over 100 active members between the ages of 60 and 93. The success of the programme can be attributed to the passion and hard work of our instructors and the friendships and connections formed by our members. The Spirit of The Wakatipu recognises individuals, groups, and organisations who give themselves to make our community a better place.

Christmas and New Year Operations

6. Work is underway for this year's Christmas & New Years holiday period. A busy time of the year for the District welcoming holiday makers and coordination of events and key programmes alongside QLDC's partners including NZ Police and core service providers.

Libraries

Literacy Programme

7. QLDC Libraries' Literacy Programme 1,000 Books Before School was launched in November 2022 and has seen over 42 preschoolers joining and (registering) completion of the programme. Currently, there are 524 children enrolled. The programme has caught the attention of libraries and councils across New Zealand and libraries has shared its resources nationally from Auckland to Dunedin. Children's Services Librarian Shana Makuta is currently expanding the programme to the next phase, 1,000 Books at School, to make a positive impact by supporting local school students and their reading development. The new programme will be launched in early 2025. QLDC Libraries are doing their part to combat the nationally declining literacy rates in New

Zealand by engaging young readers in programmes that promote a lifelong love of reading. Through initiatives like 1,000 Books at School, Libraries has committed to making literacy accessible, enjoyable, and impactful for every child.

Parks

Blue Green Network

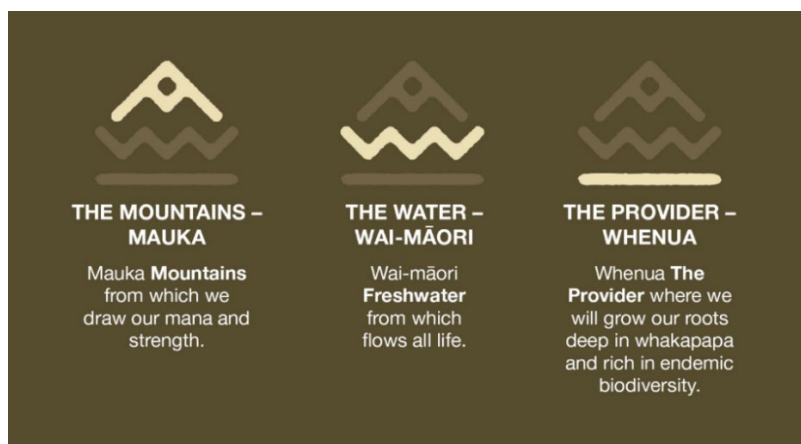
8. Final draft has been submitted from Boffa Miskell, including GIS maps. This will be presented to the Grow Well Whaiora Steering Group on Monday 11 November, and then workshopped with Full Council in early 2025.

Wildfire

9. The Parks team and FENZ are reviewing the wildfire closure plan for the 2024/25 season, the plan helps us make decisions on how to manage reserves when conditions become extreme. This may result in occasional closures to ensure public safety. Council has identified three reserves that pose the highest risk in our district: Ben Lomond, Queenstown Hill and Mount Iron. When fire indices reach unsafe levels, it will trigger QLDC's wildfire reserve closure plan which is supported by with FENZ. Closing access means that Council can reduce the potential for a fire to happen, and ensure people are out of harm's way if it does.
10. FENZ reported that an uncontrolled burn entered the Project Tohu Coronet site on Wednesday 23 October at 4.54pm. The fire nearly reached the ridge line. The fire was under control later that evening due to a quick response and heavy rain. As of 31 October, there were still hot spots burning within the site and FENZ continues to monitor the site.

Coronet Forest Regeneration Project (Tohu)

11. The Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka (tribal council) have gifted the Project Tohu name to the Coronet Forest regeneration project. The 'Project Tohu' illustration represents our three Ngāi Tahu tīpuna *ancestors* and our commitment to supporting Mana Whenua as kaitiaki *guardians*, in safeguarding their taonga and the treasures of Papatūānuku, *the earth mother*, for future generations. A 'Tohu' is a guide, a sign, a marker that signifies a truth.



12. The deer fence construction around the perimeter of the site which will assist with keeping pests such as goats out begins mid-November.

Community Partnerships

Welcoming Communities - event collaboration and support:

WAO Summit 2024 (29 October 2024, Rippon Hall)

13. Partnered with and supported the WAO Summit 'Better Communities Sessions' with Dr. Paul Spoonley and Dr. Gregg Bodeker: 'Shifting Demographics' and 'What Will 2050 Look Like?'.

Día de los Muertos Celebration (2 November 2024, 11.00am start, Paetara Aspiring Central)

14. The Wānaka Mexican Community (and wider Wānaka Latino community) delivered the second Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead).

Diwali Celebration (4 November 2024, 4.00pm-5.00pm, Wānaka Community Hub)

15. The Wānaka Indian community hosted the first public Diwali celebration in the Upper Clutha.

Language Lounge (4 November 2024, 7.00pm, Rhyme + Reason)

16. Collaboration with Kiwi Kit Community Trust to host Wānaka's second Language Lounge Event.

English Conversations (October/November, Wānaka Library)

17. Welcoming Communities and Wānaka Library delivered 'English Conversation' weekly classes in October, to be continued in November. The teacher - a retired, qualified English teacher - offered his time free of charge to provide our newcomer/migrant communities with opportunities to learn English.

ESOL Classes (August and October)

18. Partnered with Central Otago REAP and an ESOL teacher in Wānaka to provide the Upper Clutha Community with an 8-week ESOL programme in August. It was well-attended and the gap in services was identified. COREAP will provide another free 6-week ESOL programme, which starts on 23 October 2024.

Funding workshops:

19. To be held in Wānaka, Queenstown, and online, offering guidance to community groups on funding sources, application processes, and eligibility requirements. Working with partner organisation Huddl, a new entity providing resources, training and governance support for community organisations.

Wellbeing for older people

20. Collaborating with Health Improvement Practitioner (HIP) and Health Coach to provide outreach and wellbeing sessions to seniors in care homes. First engagement at Enliven Care Home on 4 November 2024 will provide seniors with information on nutrition, sleep hygiene, stress management, and how to access the HIPS and Health Coach's free services.

Summerdaze Rainbow Run

21. Partner with Sport Central to deliver free 5km community colour run. To take place on 22 November 2024 in Wānaka.

Summerdaze Picnic in the Park Series (district-wide)

22. Starts on 27 November 2024 in Albert Town; collaboration with Community Link and the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board; provides opportunity for the community to come together and engage with elected members.

Regional Heritage Partners Hui

23. Increased collaboration and heritage planning with groups across the district, supporting delivery of key heritage actions in the Creativity, Culture and Heritage Strategy. To take place in Cardrona Hall on 21 November 2024

Responsible Camping Implementation Plan:

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2021

24. On 22 September 2024 the High Court declared Council's decision to adopt the Bylaw was invalid. Bylaw enforcement has been paused.

Responsible Camping Implementation Plan

25. Work programme and key workstreams have been established, including legal, policy, regulatory, responsible camping, parks, roading and communications.

Summer Ambassador recruitment, signage updates, communications

26. Operational changes to signage, communications and Summer Ambassador recruitment underway. Key messages focus on sustainable camping practices, encouraging campers to make Tiaki Promise and promoting local campsites.
