

Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board

10 October 2024

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [3]

Title | Taitara : Chair's Report

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is:

- a. to provide the Board with an update on projects of interest;
- b. to allow members to report on recent community engagement; and
- c. to cover other matters not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and
2. **Note** that the Community & Services Committee adopted the Queenstown Lakes District Welcoming Plan 2024-2027 on 24 September 2024.

Prepared by:



Name: Simon Telfer

Title: Chair

23 September 2024

Context | Horopaki

Welcoming Communities Plan

1. The inaugural Queenstown Lakes District Welcoming Plan 2024-2027 was presented to the Community & Services Committee and adopted at its meeting held on 24 September 2024.
2. Background information about the Welcoming Communities programme was presented at a Board workshop held on 4 July 2024. At present, there are 35 local councils (including Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC)) and five local boards involved in the programme.
3. QLDC signed the Welcoming Communities/Te Waharoa ki ngā Hapori Statement of Commitment in November 2021 which committed QLDC to partnering with the community and Immigration New Zealand (INZ) to build and maintain a welcoming environment, recognising that this brings social, economic, civic and cultural benefits to the community.
4. The Welcoming Plan brings a unified and coordinated approach to settlement and integration of the district's newcomers, particularly the migrant workforce, whilst supporting the retention of skilled migrants and fostering economic growth.
5. Once QLDC is accredited as an Established Welcoming Community, INZ will provide a one-off contribution of \$9,500 to support the implementation of the Welcoming Plan. All QLDC financial investment in the plan will be managed within budgets included in the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and the focus is now on developing actions alongside funding plans to ensure sustainable delivery of work programmes.
6. The Queenstown Lakes District Welcoming Plan 2024-2027 is also presented to the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board to note the recent adoption by the Community & Services Committee, recognising that it is a plan for the whole district and there is a significant (and growing) migrant population living in the Upper Clutha.

Members' Sector Engagement Updates

Simon's comments

7. As Community Board Chair I am appointed to the Ray & Elsie Armstrong Trust. At our last meeting we agreed to grant \$56,000 to Central Otago Health Services Incorporated for the purchase of a Life Pak 35, an essential kit for the soon to be opened after-hours acute care service based at Enliven. The Trust also met with the Mt Aspiring College Foundation to discuss ways we could support their endowment fund.
8. As part of Welcoming Week – Te Wiki o Manaaki – I was privileged to open “Journeys”, a photographic exhibition by Bianca de Groot celebrating diversity in our community.
9. Jemma Adams is the new Chief Executive of the Otago Community Trust and I met with her to share ideas of how to support the charitable endeavours of the Upper Clutha community.
10. The Community Response Group Annual General Meeting (AGM) was a well-attended event and I applaud the group's efforts in better preparing Wānaka for the next emergency or natural disaster.

11. Health Action Wānaka ('HAW') continues to go from strength to strength advocating for greater investment in to our local health services. I caught up with Monique Mayze, HAW's Chair for a coffee and debrief.
12. The amount of work the Welcoming Communities team has put in to the Welcoming Plan for people new to Aotearoa-New Zealand and the district is amazing. It was a really positive hui that I attended to launch the plan and celebrate all the mahi over the past couple of years. The Welcoming Plan is referred to earlier in this report.
13. Late August saw me speaking to around 100 members of the Pembroke Men's Club. I appreciate the audience they gave me as I shared some of the challenges and successes of the Community Board over the past couple of years. Their questions were both insightful and respectful.
14. As a strong supporter and proponent of an inclusive community I was pleased to be invited to the launch of Out & About's Pride Week festivities planned for November.
15. I presented the Community Board's submission on the Long Term Plan (LTP) to Councillors.
16. With continual role growth and aging gym facilities I have been working with Mt Aspiring College Principal Nicola Jacobsen to encourage QLDC to allow the use of Paetara/Aspiring Central for ongoing PE classes.
17. The Kārearea Project celebrated five years of research into the New Zealand native falcon at the Cardrona Distillery. It was an excellent turn-out, great speeches and raffle. It's heartwarming to see these community driven environmental initiatives flourishing.
18. I had a coffee with Carmen Blackler (Energy Consultant) to better understand energy issues in the Upper Clutha as I prepare for a meeting with Aurora in October.
19. My one-on-one meeting with Mayor Glyn Lewers this month focused on solutions to the lack of sports fields in Wānaka, getting some momentum in to the Wānaka Airport master planning, relationship with Central Government and energy resiliency for the district.
20. Finally I attended an enjoyable networking function with the Board and executive team of Queenstown Airport. There was a lot of positive energy at the event and many relationships were strengthened. Amongst other things I continue to advocate for better public transport services between Wānaka and Queenstown Airport as well as increased EV charging capacity in their car parks.

Lyal's comments

21. The Upper Clutha Historical Records Society (UCHRS) held a Special General Meeting to approve a name change to 'Upper Clutha History Society (UCHS) and to sign off on a new constitution to comply with legislative changes for incorporated societies.

22. The Albert Town Community Association push for a bus shelter adjacent to the bus stop on Alison Avenue is progressing with the delivery of the shelter imminent from the Otago Regional Council. It will be stored until a pad is laid and installation can be completed. Approval has also been received from One NZ to paint a mural on the cell tower power box by the commercial area. QLDC Parks team is providing a picnic table to be installed at Templeton Park.
23. The founding Chair of the Abbeyfield Steering Group has decided to step aside from that role and move into the role of Lead Fundraiser. Stephanie Fieldsend has done an excellent job establishing the Steering Group and advancing this project. Chris Shield has put his name forward to replace Stephanie as the Chair. Chris has previous involvement with establishing an Abbeyfield and is passionate about the concept. The Group is working to get the Abbeyfield Wānaka incorporated.
24. Wānaka Business Chamber has received 67 applications for business awards and judges are deliberating to select finalists to go forward to the Wānaka Business Excellence Awards on 9 November 2024 at Rippon Vineyard.

Chris's comments

25. Other than the constant interaction with the community over the café counter I have begun the next stage of engagement with QLDC with regards to the Performing Arts Centre. The objective is to work closely with them to find out what procedures need to be followed to ensure that at the next LTP review in three years the project will be included. To date I have had a meeting with the Mayor, which was very positive and we have agreed on the next steps particularly with regards to setting up formal lines of communication to facilitate the process.
26. With regards to the installation of the Dibble sculpture, a more defined site has been selected within the area as approved by the Board. Thankfully Linda Joll has been managing this most recently and the issues around the making of the plinth and securing the sculpture have all been addressed. Final installation should be in mid-November 2024.

Linda's comments

27. Wānaka Library hosted a lovely afternoon tea to share kōrero with the organisers of the New Zealand Mountain Film & Book Festival which I had the pleasure to attend. It was arranged by formidable wāhine and tamariki behind the scenes and it was a pleasure to meet them all.
28. Environmentally we have had a particularly large amount of rain lately. As a result, it's been busy for those with exposed soils to ensure that sediment controls are being well managed so no run offs are going into our waterways.
29. Cardrona Distillery hosted the second public meeting of the Kārearea Project, wonderfully inspiring to hear of the positive contributions the community is enabling for this amazing indigenous falcon, great to see the large number of interested parties attend this gorgeous venue in Cardrona.
30. The Lakes District Arts Trust is very excited about the upcoming installation of the donated Paul Dibble work on the lakefront. The install is planned for late November 2024.

31. Welcoming Week (arranged by the Welcoming Communities team) for our migrant communities was held during September and I attended an excellent workshop held at Amigos at which Mexican food was shared as well as information about cooking with spices. This workshop was well-attended and a fun way to spend a Sunday and meet some fabulous new people. I missed seeing the photographic journey but great to celebrate our diversity in this amazing place and welcome our newcomers.
32. I am engaged with the Community Networks regarding support for vulnerable people in our community. All services are stretched to their maximum at present and the staff at Community Networks do a great job in assisting wherever they can. The community is so lucky to have this service.
33. Food For Love is also extremely busy and in demand. Along with their great food service they are also developing an app to make it easier to access their services so watch out for this. It's a pleasure to deliver these incredible meals to wherever they are needed.
34. I attended a networking event at Oakridge hosted by Queenstown Airport. The event was well attended and it was great to have Mayor Lewers in the house. There was lots of lively discussion around the success of Queenstown Airport, and a great opportunity to meet to share kōrero and open the conversation again regarding Wānaka Airport.

John's comments

35. I attended the Welcoming Communities hui and was impressed both with the work to date and the public interest and support shown for the project by the number attending. As an immigrant to Aotearoa-New Zealand and pretty much straight to Wānaka in 1997, I have an awareness of how useful this project will be to new migrants, especially those whose home cultures are different from ours.
36. I attended a working bee with the Mt Barker Residents Association at the native planting area by the Cardrona River at Faulks Road and was pleased to see the vast majority of the native plants have survived, with many thriving.
37. I spoke to my personal submission on the LTP to support the issues raised in the Community Board submission.
38. I visited the Wānaka Arts Centre on its open day/drop in session and it's great to see this old building being so well used by an amazing range of local artists.
39. I attended the Share With Us session at Paetara, where the key issues raised were the increase in rates, the shortage of Upper Clutha sports fields and access issues around the Mt Iron Reserve. Following on from this Councillor Lyal Cocks and I had a meeting with Council staff to try and address the sports field issues, and further meetings are planned with the sports codes to find a shared path forward that works for as many codes as possible.
40. I continue to work with Councillor Barry Bruce to help develop safe active transport routes to Te Kura O Take Karara, as the area becomes busier through ongoing retail development.

Cody's comments

41. I met with our Local MP Miles Anderson at the Lake Hāwea Community Centre for a Monday morning community catchup. We talked about the Resource Management Act reforms, infrastructure financing and water reforms. Some community members brought up concerns with trees near main roads and the risk they have in an earthquake blocking access, health access and Hāwea's growth.
42. This month has been super busy with hearings and deliberations on LTP submissions. I was extremely grateful for those who submitted as the Upper Clutha took the majority of submissions and championed the urgent need to prioritise sports fields and an arts centre.
43. I continually keep in touch with the Hāwea Community Association and am proud to have championed their views successfully at the latest Council meeting in regards to the Special Housing Area in Lake Hāwea.
44. A big community turn out at the Hāwea Hotel as Quartz Development unveiled their latest plans for the new Hāwea Hotel, bar/restaurant and commercial facilities where the current Hāwea Store and Kitchen sits. Next to the new supermarket set to be opened this month its big news for Hāwea's independence and autonomy as our own village.
45. I attended the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan workshop at the Lake Wānaka Centre and multiple online sessions as a member of the working party. I am learning so much about the best places to focus and strategise. Council is looking at building a new Materials Recovery Facility which will be one of the most significant capital investments to date and I'm hoping with the new land acquisition in Wānaka near Wastebusters, we could be a prime candidate to house this facility and build on the already strong sustainable reputation our community has.
46. Makarora Community Association recently had their AGM which I was sadly too sick to attend in person. They celebrated the slurry of events from the fishing competition and Christmas party to Kids Movie nights and Potlucks to sharing their work in Civil Defence, First Aid and Inorganic Collection.
47. I attended the Queenstown Airport networking event at Oakridge and spoke with all the major stakeholders. Always reassuring that we have the Wānaka Airport conversation early, with vulnerability and an open mind.
48. I was honoured to help celebrate our rangatahi doing amazing stuff at the youth volunteer awards. I am always humbled to see the extensive hours put in by our young leaders who inspire the rest of us to do more. There was also a great live performance by a local school band.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Welcoming Plan 2024/27 (circulated separately)
B	Three Waters project report September 2024