

MEMBERS REPORT
for
Local Government NZ Conference
14th -17th July 2021

Members Names	Rebeca Fox, Karen Yates, Alex Beijen, Garrick Emms
Committee/Working Group/Appointment Name	LGNZ Conference. Blenheim
Meeting Date	Wed 14th - Sat 17th July.
Key issues from meeting	<p>Day 1: 3 Waters “Better Water everywhere” Future of Local Government Creativity as a driver of community making and well-being. Taking the pulse of local Government2021. Simpson Grierson. What does the future look like?</p> <p>Day 2: LGNZ CEO Susan Freeman-Greene Address. Natural capital - The Marlborough story. Minister LG address. resilience in the face of natural hazards. Building towards sustainable supply. Opposition Address; Chris Luxon</p> <p>Closing keynote session; Jamie Fitzgerald Closing ceremony.</p> <p>Interactive workshops. Nick Meeten. Making use of the Energy we’re flushing away.</p> <p>Day 3: LGNZ AGM</p>
Specific item/s for consideration	Refer full agenda and presenters; https://www.lgnz2021.co.nz/programme
General	<p>Conference Comments: Cr Fox and Cr Emms</p> <p>Day one:</p> <p>There were three themes to day one. The first was strongly focused on the three water reform and what this could potentially do for our communities. This was in addresses by the Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Hon Grant Robertson and the Mayor of Nelson City Council Rachel Reese (who is on the three waters steering committee). There was much</p>

	<p>discussion and questions from the floor around number, benefits, opting out and how some of the number had been arrived at.</p> <p>The second theme was about creativity can be used successfully in Council driven projects and how creativity and especially the inclusion of mana whenua can support these projects. A moving example was given by Rangi Kipa a Taranaki based artist who was significantly involved in the rebuild and development of New Plymouth's regional airport. His involvement, and the work saw natural justice return over land that had been taken from local Maori, with their involvement in the design, the artwork and the ultimate placement of the building. We also heard from Caren Rangi who is chair of the Arts Council of New Zealand about her view of how creative arts can be used to support local community.</p> <p>The third theme what does the future of local government look like. The LGA is up for review along with three waters and the RMA. Reimagining local government took us down a discussion with a number of panel members where they discussed their views for how we could look. Much of this discussion was centred around community wellness and housing and dealing with social need in the community. While this is part of the LGA now, this looks to be the future state of local government.</p>
	<p>Day two:</p> <p>The theme for this day followed on from what local government could look like and the opportunities this presents us to be able to lead and develop the shape for the future. We heard some good local case histories of how natural capital can be used to help a district thrive and the opportunities this present to community. This was told through the lens of a grape grower and how the farm dairy farm was turned into a successful organic vineyard as well as hearing about the aviation story with Omaka Vintage Air museum and how this has been a real community project as well as a council funded one along with the assistance of Sir Peter Jackson who has his vintage aircraft and memorabilia on display.</p> <p>There was a significant discussion around housing and how we could look to manage that in the future. Shamabeel Equab presented a very interesting series of statistics around the real costs of housing the ways Councils could assist housing in the future become more affordable and accessible.</p> <p>We attended a free seminar about using the heat from wastewater reticulation to run heat transfer systems and heat nearby buildings. It was presented by a kiwi, has been used overseas and is starting to be used in NZ.</p>