

REPORT TO COUNCIL ON 2019 LGNZ CONFERENCE

Compiled by Councillor Colin Olds 29/07/2019

This year's conference was held in Wellington from Sunday 7th of July and finishing mid-afternoon on Tuesday the 9th of July.

There were 628 delegates attending from various Government and non-Government agencies.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the Sunday afternoon. Mayor Napier and I were appointed voting delegates. Taking the wishes from our Council, we voted accordingly.

There were twenty-one remits heard and supported by their submitters. Voting was electronic, you either supported, not supported or abstained. Every delegate had to vote one way or the other as "not voting" at all was picked up during this electronic process.

A full list of remits can be found on LGNZ's web site, news and media.

Following the AGM there was the formal opening of the conference which included an address from LGNZ President Dave Cull, an opening keynote speech from Hon Dame Tariana Turia. The evening concluded with a sponsored welcome reception held at Te Papa.

Day two, we were introduced to Patrick Gower, our master of ceremonies.

The morning sessions were focused on Localism with commentary from various speakers.

Following morning tea, the next session's being Climate Change, Address from Parliamentary Opposition, a humorous attempt by some delegates to ride a crocodile bike and then lunch.

The first afternoon session continued to focus on Localism. This was followed by an address from our Local Government Minister Hon Manaia Mahuta.

The focus then shifted to Housing and building in New Zealand.

Following afternoon tea delegates then broke out into workshops. Unfortunately I was unable to attend any of these as I had another commitment.

The conference dinner was held in the evening and provided further opportunity to network and socialise.

Day three started around 9am. The first session being Managing Fresh water – best practice. This session was hosted by our MC Patrick Gower and the forum consisted of Doug Leeder, LGNZ Regional Group, Terry Copeland, Federated Farmers and Geoff Simmons Leader of the opportunities party. There was some robust discussion with the consensus being "we can do better"

The last session for me was, Creating Change: inspiring leadership in local communities.

This was presented by Colin D Ellis. For me probably one of the most inspiring lectures of the conference.

In conclusion I would like to thank Council for once again giving me the opportunity to attend Conference.

Conference provides a fantastic opportunity to share our thoughts, network with people who share our challenges in their own communities and learn what we can expect form Central Government in the not too distant future.

Councillor Colin Olds.

29/07/19