

## REPORT

**TO:** Councillors

**FROM:** Mayor Richard Kempthorne

**DATE:** 10 December 2009

**REPORT REF:** RCN091217 MAYORS REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Mayor's Report for October/November 2009

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5 October

- Met the new Chairman of Richmond Unlimited, Andrew McGlashen, with Pam Williams, Manager and Cr Edgar

6 October

- Attended Urban Design workshop at Nelson City Council, with many Councillors and staff from both Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council. A very worthwhile presentation demonstrating again the value of increased involvement from Councils in urban design, and reinforced the value of the joint Nelson/Tasman Urban Design Panel.

8 October

- Met with Scott Tobin and Andrew Timline from Audit New Zealand and briefly discussed Council's audit.

10 October

- Opening the National Coastal Dune Network Workshop in Tahunanui. Cr Ensor and several council staff attended.

19 October

- Top of the South (TOTS) Mayors and CEOs Forum, followed by a TOTS Transport Liaison Committee meeting. The Mayors and CEOs Forum discussed:
  - A report back on the RAC strategy meeting
  - An update on the TOTS Cycle trail
  - Freedom camping
  - Regional planning priorities
  - A resource management plan for the Top of the South.

The Top of the South Transport Liaison Committee meeting allowed the three Councils to share their individual Transport Programmes to give an appropriate strategic overview of the three Programmes, and collaborative Council support in any area where this will benefit overall transport efficiency.

20 October

- Attending the Kotahitanga Hui at Wakatu Marae to discuss the proposed Waimea Estuary plan and ask for iwi representation in this process.
- Finalised panellists for the joint Urban Design Panel.

22 October

- Officiated at the opening of Saxton Stadium

23 October

- Hosted the Dutch Ambassador, Annelies Boogaerdt to commemorate the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Dutch Explorer Abel Tasman. Ms Boogaerdt visited the Abel Tasman statue in Tahunanui and lunched with both Mayors. Unfortunately only a few weeks later, I was saddened to learn that Ms Boogaerdt had suddenly passed away. I am keen to maintain contact with the Dutch Embassy in the future.
- Attended the Nelson Tasman Tourism AGM and Annual Update

27 October

- Met with the CEO of Tasman Regional Sports Trust regarding an overview of the Trust activity – key area have been the establishment of a manager for Saxton Stadium and join Council support for shifting 'Sporthouse' into Saxton Stadium.
- Met with Animal Health Board Chair (John Dalziell) and CEO (William McCook)
- 29 October
- Full Council meeting – adopted 2009 Tasman District Council Audited Annual Report

2 November

- Attended and welcomed delegates at the Greypower Zone Meeting
- Met with MP Kevin Hague
- Opening of new Dog Shelter in Richmond

3 November

- Spoke at New Zealand Recreation Association conference in Hastings

5 November

- Zone 5 meeting in Christchurch

6 November

- Met with representatives from Wakatu Incorporation, Ngati Rarua Atiawa Iwi Trust, Te Awhina Marae, Te Atiawa Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust and Ngati Rarua Iwi Trust to discuss strengthening communications between the Council and Iwi; submissions on the 10 Year Plan; and water management. Further meetings are planned with other iwi groups in the future.

- Attended the Chamber of Commerce Business Awards with Jane, Tim and Gail King. Several of the category winners were Tasman companies, including the Supreme Award winners, Sunrise Cleaning, and we extend our congratulations to them all.

11 November

- Lunchtime meeting with Ministry of Transport's Martin Matthews
- Meeting with Nelson City Council representatives to discuss progressing the Holding Company and also Recreational Facilities. Clearly this is an area requiring considerable attention.

16 November

- Regular meeting with MP Damien O'Connor

19 November

- Council meeting for Nelson City Council to present to Tasman District Council a proposal for funding a Nelson Performing Arts Centre.

20 November

- Regular meeting with MP Chris Auchinvole
- Tasman/Nelson Environment Awards at Woolleston Winery

23 November

- Meeting with Ngati Kuia Chairperson Waihaere Mason
- Meeting of Richmond Pool Charitable Trust
- Confirmed changes to Part IV TRMP with Cr Higgins and Mary-Anne Baker

25 November

- Richmond Community Patrol End of year BBQ. It is always a pleasure to attend these end of year functions and thank the volunteers in our community

26 November

- Regional Affairs Committee meeting in Gisborne

1 December 2009

- Meeting with MP and Minister of Local Government Rodney Hide. Discussion included the following points:
  - Tasman District Council - a unitary. Our experiences
  - Our position on the Aldo Miccio petition for amalgamation of the Nelson/Tasman Councils
  - Shared services
  - Our commitment to a "Top of the South" approach
  - Transport - major issue for Tasman
  - Our region, overall picture
    - 725 kms of coastline
    - 1660 kms roads

- National Parks
- 17 settlements
- intensive horticulture
- flood prone rivers
- Priorities for regulation reform i.e. Food Bill
- Cutting costs for LG sector – talk to the LG sector
- Building Act changes – centralising will cut LG costs
- Cost of Audit
- Community Boards
- Relationships with Iwi
- Lee Valley Dam

### **During the Month/s..**

- Following a Regional Affairs Committee Strategic Workshop meeting in October, three Working Committees have been formed to work individually on a number of current issues for the sector. CEO Paul Wylie has been placed on the committee to look at engagement with iwi on Treaty Settlement, and I have been placed on a committee to clarify a process for Regional Councils and Unitaries to work together and communicate clearly on important issues.
- I have been working with Richmond South ratepayers affected by the deferred residential zoning in Richmond South to try to identify a funding pathway for provision of potable water to enable development. This issue is being worked through by Tasman District Council staff and a small group of nominated representatives from the ratepayer group.
- A number of events attended either by myself or Tim King to celebrate the signing of a Charter between the Top of the South Councils and the naval vessel HMNZS Pukaki. This included a (rather soggy) Charter Parade through the centre of Nelson, and me accompanying the Pukaki as it sailed into Nelson Harbour.
- A number of meetings of the Land and Water Forum (LWF) on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of October.
- Took the opportunity to meet with each Tasman Councillor one-on-one where possible for a general catch up and review how Council is working with respect to each Councillor's expectations. Outcomes will be discussed at the Council meeting.
- Two citizenship ceremonies for a large number of new citizens
- Attended Secondary School prizegivings around the region
- A busy two months with no sign of a let up before the Christmas break

### **Outcomes from discussions with Councillors throughout the month:**

- Reminder for all of us to use microphones in meetings all the time to help those with a hearing impediment. Can we all reinforce this to each other please.
  - Reminder that we should all guard against criticising a consent hearing decision. It is important to remember that the members of a hearing panel and those attending a whole hearing are the only ones who have heard all of the evidence. We need to respect our collective responsibility in decision making i.e. Team Tasman District Council.
  - Request to review the meeting protocol in order to give all attendees of Council meetings a fair hearing and to ensure our meetings are run efficiently
  - A reminder that although all elected representatives are on all Council committees i.e. Engineering, Corporate Services, Community Services, Environment & Planning,; that Councillors should not feel compelled to attend all meetings. At times, the meeting schedule is very heavy and discretion about missing the occasional meeting is fine.
- We will have a brief discussion at the Council meeting regarding Councillors Code of Conduct as a reminder to us all