

REPORT

TO: Councillors
FROM: Mayor R Kempthorne
DATE: 22nd April 2010
SUBJECT: Mayor's Report for March 2010 - RCN10-04-01

1st March

Combined Shareholders meeting
Meeting of the Top of the South Rural Support Trust

2nd March

Met with representatives of Victim Support in Motueka for their appeal week
Met with Paul McIntyre, newly appointed Editor at the Nelson Mail
Attended the ASB Aquatic Centre celebrations – the Centre has achieved its Pool Safety Accreditation, one of several accreditations demonstrating very good management

4th March

Wellington- met with regional council representatives who were presenting to the Land and Water Forum

5th March

Cawthron Trust Board Meeting

6th March

Richmond Family Fun Ride, accompanied by Mayor Kerry Marshall and Oly and Ezra Martin

8th March

Met with members of the Motueka Community Board to talk through their concerns with the distribution of water from the Motueka water supply. We enjoyed an amicable discussion of the issues, however it did not remove their wish for an Environment Court appeal. They have expressed an interest in further discussion which I will support to try and resolve this appeal.

9th March

Attended Golden Bay and Motueka Community Board meetings

10th March

Visit from the new Auditor General, Lynn Provost, with Deputy Auditor General Phillippa Smith, and Sarah Lineham, Sector Manager.
Attended EDA Liaison Group meeting with Cr Norriss

Attended the Nelson Tasman Connections Providers Forum at Saxton Field. It is very encouraging to see how various agencies and groups work together to help address current issues relevant to young people.

10th - 11th March

Land and Water Forum, Wellington

12th March

Council meeting. Council adopted the Draft Annual Plan 2010/2011

12th – 14th March

The Nelson Tasman region hosted the National Trustpower Community Awards. Cr Jack Inglis and the Friends of the Motueka Hospital Trust received the Supreme National Community Award and we are very proud to have a nominee from the Tasman region, and a Tasman Councillor, win this award.

18th – 19th March

Regional Affairs Committee, Wellington. Had a wide ranging discussion of current issues affecting Regional and Unitary Councils. Of particular note are the respective treaty settlements, and establishing a process to enable Regional Councils and Unitary Councils to better collaborate on key issues.

19th March

Attended the Gala Concert to celebrate the new Steinway grand piano at the Nelson School of Music. The new Steinway has been gifted by Tasman businessman, Murray Sturgeon and his wife Jocelyn. A stunning event to mark this occasion with a beautiful instrument and auditorium. Well done, and thank you, Murray and Jocelyn.

21st March

Attended the Nelson Multicultural Race Unity Day. A fantastic occasion celebrating and demonstrating the increasing cultural diversity of our community. Welcomed a school group of students from Fujimi Machi to Richmond. Students from the Friendly Town visit Richmond each year.

22nd March

Attended the network campaign launch for Te Rito Family Violence, encouraging those facing family violence issues to acknowledge their need and seek help. Attended the launch of the EcoHut at Salisbury School. Salisbury School always demonstrates an enormous contribution the educational needs of its students and their environmental initiatives are outstanding.

24th March

Attended the awards for the Nelson Schools EcoHuts
Regular Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council Mayors, Deputies, and CEOs meeting where we discussed working together on relevant issues.
Facilitated a meeting between the Community Probation Service and concerned residents regarding the proposed Community Probation Service Centre at McIndoe Place, also including Richmond Councillors.

The adults from the Fujimi Machi school trip visited at Council and enjoyed a morning tea.

25th March

Land and Water Forum, Wellington

26th March

Attended the opening of the Brook Education Centre at the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary. The Education Centre is a partnership between NMIT and the Department of Conservation.

Attended a Cocktail Function for launch of the Mapua Voluntary Library Literary Festival Strategic planning session with Tasman Regional Sports Trust

27th March

Opening of the Ranzau School 'multipurpose room'

28th March

Federated Farmers Farm Day at David and Pauline Marshall's farm, Teapot Valley. This was a stunning and well attended 'town meets country' day.

Farewell for Fujimi Machi students travelling back to Japan, where I delivered my first speech spoken in Japanese, and understood by our Japanese visitors. These visits are highly valued by both visitors and hosts alike.

31st March

Laying of the first stones for the development of the Glen Aquaculture centre, an iwi blessing for this building and development.

Function at Parliament for the release of the National Guidelines for Planning for the Aggregate and Quarry Industry. Designed to ensure an adequate long term supply of aggregate (gravel) for development in our community.

3rd April

Attended the Opening Ceremony of the Easter Dancesport Competitions at the Trafalgar Centre.

7th April

Opening of the reclaimed land and carpark at the Collingwood Boat Ramp

8th April

Met with MP Chris Auchinvole for an update on current issues.

Dinner with the Australian High Commissioner, Mayor Marshall and MP Nick Smith (and partners)

9th April

Planning meeting for Mayoral civic functions during Rugby World Cup

Attended and Chaired Nelson Tasman Connections meeting.

Met with MP the Hon Dr Nick Smith for an update on current issues

Met Barry Ley, from Solarcity and discussed the Tasman involvement in the Clean Heat, Warm Homes initiative.

10th April

Attended and spoke at a luncheon for Dick Papps, who has received a life service award from the Returned Services Association. This was a very enjoyable occasion to honour Dick for the work he does and it was really nice to meet many of the Golden Bay RSA members.

12th April

Met with MP Damien O'Connor for an update on current issues.

14th April

Addressed the Growsafe Trainers Seminar, Auckland
Meeting of Good Management Practice group (subgroup of the Land and Water Forum), Wellington

15th April

Land and Water Forum, Wellington

During the month...

The National Hockey Tournament took place at Saxton Field. I attended the closing ceremony of the tournament and took the chance to view some of the matches during the week. This was the first use of the hockey pavilion at Saxton Field.

Met with Golden Bay Medical Centre Trustees regarding resolving ongoing ownership issues, support of integrated health services and provided for a health facility in Golden Bay long term. We have now had two constructive meetings in an endeavour to work through the issues.

Attended, with Councillors and staff, Draft Annual Plan consultation meetings in Murchison, Tapawera, Motueka, Collingwood, Takaka, Richmond and Mapua

Freedom Camping

The CEO and staff are continuing to investigate ways of addressing some issues emanating from the behaviour of a small percentage of freedom campers. Councillors will be aware that there is growing concern for the waste left behind by some freedom campers. There are currently enquiries being made to see the level of support to address this issue at a national level (and we will report back on initiatives through Zone 5, 6 or LGNZ nationally).

Councillor attendance at Local Government New Zealand Conference 2010

This year the annual conference is from the 25th to the 28th July in Auckland. For the last two years, in addition to Deputy Mayor King, one of the 'new' councillors has attended. My suggestion is that this year, Cr Edgar is invited to attend.

Richard Kempthorne
Mayor