

FROM THE Mayor-Elects Desk

After avoiding COVID-19 for a couple of years, the virus finally caught up with Beth and I, and I have just returned to the office after a decent rest and recovery.

Although we are now living with COVID-19 in our community and life feels seemingly back to normal, my time in isolation certainly reminded me of the seriousness of the virus and how much it is still affecting our communities.

I am very humbled to have been elected for my fourth term as Mayor and would like to offer my thanks to the Rangitikei community for their ongoing support. I am excited that I will be able to see many of our capital projects come to life over the next three years as we continue shaping a bright and prosperous future for our district.

A big congratulations is also in order for the returning and newly elected Councillors across the Rangitikei District. The next few months will see us entering a busy period of induction and training as we commence the new triennium and I look forward to hearing the new ideas our Councillors will bring to the table.

Finally, I attended the Resene New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architecture Awards in Auckland last Thursday evening and was absolutely thrilled to see playground designers Boffa Miskell who, in association with the Marton Development Group, were given an Award of Excellence for the Education and Play Category for Te Āhuru Mōwai Marton Playground. I would like to offer a big congratulations to the Marton Development Group who led this project, alongside Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa, and the wider Rangitikei community, organisations and businesses who helped to bring this incredible project to life. This is an impressive and well-deserved accolade for a great asset in our community.

Ngā manaakitanga, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.



Taihape Amenities Building Update

After significant delays due to a nationwide building supply shortage, we're excited to see that the steel has finally arrived for the new Ngā Awa Block at Memorial Park! The construction of the new amenities building can now progress as planned and is expected to be completed in early 2023.

The design and colour palette of the amenities building can now be seen coming to life too, with visible steel columns all bright yellow like the flowers of the kōwhai tree, blue-green feature walls in each changing room to reference our rivers, and the cladding and room are grey like the river, rocks, and cliffs in our district - a concept that we think truly represents the ecological diversity of our district.

Providing sports teams with a 298m² modern changing facility adjacent to the tennis and netball courts in the Taihape Memorial Park, the new amenities building will feature four changing rooms, each with toilets and showers, two smaller multi-purpose rooms, extra referee rooms, and a small commentators/observation room.

To learn more about this project, visit our website rangitikei.govt.nz/ngaawablock

Event Sponsorship and Community Initiatives funding now open!

The second round of funding is now open for the Events Sponsorship Scheme and Community Initiatives Fund.

Whether you have an idea for an epic event that you want to bring to life, or a creative vision for a community-based project you need help getting off the ground - make sure to get your applications in for 2023.

For more information, please visit: rangitikei.govt.nz/fundingopportunities



Local Election Results 2022

The 2022 local elections results have been finalised and we would like to offer our congratulations to Mayor Andy Watson, and our re-elected and incoming councillors and members of our Community Boards.

To view the final results please visit our website: rangitikei.govt.nz/elections



Marton Market Day is back for 2022!

Bringing back one of the biggest events in the Rangitikei district, join us on Saturday 12th November from 9am to 3pm for an unforgettable day as we take over Marton's town centre!

With quality street entertainment, free games, arts and crafts, great food, and over 200 market stalls - Marton Market Day truly has something for everyone.

For more information, visit martonnz.com/events



Te Āhuru Mōwai Playground wins Award of Excellence

Congratulations are in order for Te Āhuru Mōwai Playground designers Boffa Miskell who, in association with the Marton Development Group, Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa and Council, were awarded the Award of Excellence in the Education and Play category at the Resene New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architecture Awards 2022 last week.

Representing Council, Mayor Andy Watson and Chief Executive Peter Beggs attended the awards, alongside Marton Development Group Chairperson Lucy Skou.

We'd like to acknowledge the Rangitikei community, organisations and businesses who helped to bring this incredible project to life.

Are you planning on booking a building inspection soon?

Like most other areas across the country, we are facing a significant increase in demand and a shortage of qualified building inspectors. We know these delays are frustrating and there are some things builders can do to help us streamline the process:

- Please book your inspections in advance
- If you are not going to be ready for your inspection by your booking date, please reschedule your inspection so we can give the appointment to someone else on our waiting list
- We are seeing a large number of failed inspections which then require a second inspection. Please do what you can to ensure you are ready for your inspection

We have recruited two cadets who are training to be qualified building inspectors which will significantly increase the volume of inspections we can manage each week. Until then, we appreciate your patience and understanding.

If you have any concerns or questions, please get in touch with building.services@rangitikei.govt.nz