

Te Roopu Ahi Kaa: Te Ripoata Tiamana
PAENGA WHAWHA 2025

Tena Koutou katoa, nga raurangatira ma o te rohe!

He mihi atu ki nga whanau I mate I tera marama, haere, haere, haere atu ra! He mihi hoki ki nga whanau I tu tonu, Kia Kaha, Kia Maia, Kia Manawanui!

Since our last hui, held in Hui Tangaru (February), the effects of autumn can be seen all around us and felt with the distinct drop in temperature. There have many things that have come to pass in these last 2 months which I'd like to acknowledge. Firstly, the internal promotions within staff with Arno Benadie stepping up into the Deputy Chief Executive position, Katrina Gray promoted into the Group Manager Strategy, Community & Democracy and also a mention to Tiffany Gower as the new Strategy Manager.

We have seen things play out in the national and international space that also deserve a mention. The release of the recommendation from the justice select committee around the Treaty Principles Bill to "Not proceed" gives hope and confirms that the people in this country will mobilise when they need to. Of the 300,000 plus submissions submitted, 90% of those opposed the bill. I'd like to acknowledge Te Roopu Ahi Kaa and this council for submitting into this space and adding their voice.

In the international arena, what is currently happening in America is frightening. The implications of their government policies and how this is having a devastating effect on Global relationships is mind boggling!

We of course come straight back to what it is we do as a group, that sits under the umbrella of the Rangitikei District Council. The advice or decision making that we are tasked with adds into the overall pool of knowledge that is then fed into the full council decision making process.

In regard, to what we are seeing on this month's Hui Agenda, we have of course "Business as Usual" (BAU) updates, from external consultations, current projects being undertaken, economic strategy and of course report from our Mana Whenua Strategic Advisor.

Staff will also be taking us through a discussion item on the methods of engagement with the Local Water Done Well kaupapa.

I'd like to advocate to members and anyone listening online to get out to one of the Annual Plan consultation Hui that are being held across the rohe. These are an important way of garnering your thoughts as a rate payer and resident to what you feel is important.

At the end of the month, we of course have ANZAC day coming up and like many of you I will be attending one of the many services being held across the motu.

The Ode

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

Whakatauki!

"Kia uru kahikatea te tū"

"To stand as a grove of kahikatea"

Collaborative effort is essential to mutual strength, survival, growth, and success

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Piki Te Ora Hiroa, Tiamana