

Rangitikei District Youth Council Meeting

# **Tuesday 30th April 2019**

## **Chairperson's Official Report**

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### **Introduction**

Welcome back, I hope you all had a fun and relaxing school holidays. To start off, as you may have noticed we are missing two members. This is due to the verbal resignation of Mackenzie Morgan and Bradley Wirihana. Their resignation does mean that there are now two vacant positions as members in our council. Nardia will seek replacements as quickly as possible.

### **Taihape Gumboot Day**

The annual Taihape Gumboot Day took place in March on the 23rd, and overall it was a very successful event that brought the community together. The date had been set for months, but of course on the 15th of March the tragic Mosque shooting occurred down in Christchurch which left the whole country on edge - Mayor Andy Watson acknowledged this by giving a genuine and heartwarming speech to commence Gumboot Day, which reminded us that we cannot take our safety for granted but we must also enjoy the day with our friends and families. Thank you to Nardia who drove Sam and her friend all the way to Taihape and back so they could help run the youth activities with Caryse and I. The girls were one of my 23 high-school aged volunteers for the day, a record number of volunteers for Gumboot Day according to the organisers.

### **Taihape Islamic Centre / Mosque**

The week after our camp I called Nardia to ask if I could write a card and give flowers to the Mosque in Taihape on behalf of our Youth Council. The family who built and run the mosque are very important to the Taihape community, and have been for many years. I can still remember on the camp, only hours after meeting you all for the first time, how we were all discussing ideas and ways we could support the victims of the Christchurch shooting. So thinking of everything you all said and the natural, instinctive empathy you all displayed that weekend, I wrote in the card that we condemn what happened, but we commend the

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nationwide reaction. I also wrote how, as our district's Youth Council, we will represent our fellow youth which includes their two children - because despite their religion, their ethnicity or their background - just like every other Muslim who calls New Zealand home, *they are us*. And we will love them like family, support them like a friend, and stand with them as their community.

Now linking on from this is the tree planting last Saturday in the Marton Memorial Park - which was efficiently organised and led by Charly. Thank you to Nardia and Sam who came and helped us with the planting. Charly, if you would like to say a word

### **Marton Harvest Fair**

Thank you to Paige, Caryse, Charly and Sam for coming to the Harvest Fair - we walked around the entire festival and collected feedback from many youth - both positive and negative - while advertising the upcoming youth awards. We had our own stall where Nardia sold her homemade nachos - or sold out, I should say. Nardia made \$200 profit for us, so a big thank you to her.

### **Meeting**

The Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi proposed that we meet more often, preferably every four weeks. This is an excellent idea that will help us maintain communication and make faster progress through our projects. Nardia will now show what our potential new schedule looks like.

### **Group Contract**

The group contract we created at River Valley has been typed up by Makayla.

### **Group Logo**

Charly, Hunter ??

Making our youth heard.