


## Mayoral Diary Month year

<p><b>Monday 4 February</b></p>	<p><b>Opening of Agri-tech Hub</b> Ngati Haua Iwi Trust have partnered with Wintec to deliver courses for 16-40 year olds beginning with Landscape Construction.</p> <p>The Agri-tech Hub is located at the former Mangateparu School. I was delighted to be invited to officially open the hub.</p> <p>Council has a strong partnership with Ngati Haua, we work in close proximity and for the best outcomes for our communities. Opportunities like what they are providing for our youth in education and to upskill in this learning centre are very valuable. Ngati Haua has the full support from Matamata-Piako.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 6 February</b></p>	<p><b>Waitangi Day</b> It was my pleasure to welcome everyone to the Morrinsville Recreation Grounds and Swim Zone Morrinsville to celebrate our Waitangi whaanau fun day for 2019. We were lead in with the Ratana Band accompanied by King Tuheitias personal band.</p> <p>It was great to see that people had travelled from out of town to support the event and the local community and thank you to our Volunteer Youth Ambassadors who were there to assist the running of our event.</p> <p>This year marked the 179th commemoration of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, New Zealand's founding document.</p> <p>A free hangi was provided and we were very grateful to the whanau for preparing this feast for us all to enjoy. I hope you had a chance to come and enjoy our day, had some fun with the activities provided by Sport Waikato and made the most of the free entry into the Swim Zone pool complex.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;">   </div> 



Photo supplied by Stephen Cope

<b>Thursday 7 February</b>	<b>CEO performance review</b> Councils CEO performance review committee met for the six month informal review of our CEO Don McLeod.
<b>Friday 8 February</b>	<b>National Council Board meeting</b> A full day of council papers were discussed including items such as 3 Waters.
<b>Saturday 9 February</b>	<b>Paeroa Highland Games</b> Rex and I were invited as guests to attend the 26 <sup>th</sup> Highland Games and Tattoo held at the Paeroa Domain by Mayor John Tregidga and HRT board member Basil Morrison. We thoroughly enjoyed the day, it was a wow! I am sure this was one of the best. The crowd was obviously having a great time!  Congratulations to the organising committee on a successful event.
<b>Monday 11 February</b>	<b>Regional Transport Committee tour</b> Our bus departed the Waikato Regional Council offices in Hamilton and travelled to SH 1/29 to Tauranga viewing key SH 1/29 road projects en route with NZTA and police representatives on board.  We arrived at the Port of Tauranga offices and were joined by Bay of Plenty RTC committee members. A presentation was made by Port of Tauranga board members Dan Kneebone and then we had a tour of the Port.  Our return trip via SH2 Tauranga to Paeroa via Te Aroha and Morrinsville viewing SH 2 roading issues along the way.
<b>Tuesday 12 February</b>	<b>Friends of the rail trail meeting</b> I met with residents of Te Aroha who have an interest in forming Friends of the Rail Trail. Basil Morrison of the HRT and Mary Massey of the Te Aroha Railway Trust also joined me in the discussion. Thank you Dianne and John for your hospitality. This group will meet again in early March, hosted by the Railway Trust.  <b>Meeting with Exec team</b> I had my catch up with CEO Don McLeod and his executive team to be updated on current projects, issues and events.  <b>Te Aroha Museum</b> Janice Parsell hosted Council Property Officer Vikki Black and myself to discuss the Cadman building maintenance issues.

	<p><b>Morrinsville Branch of the Māori Women's Welfare League</b></p> <p>I was the guest speaker at the leagues meeting held at the Nottingham Castle restaurant. Young and older members were most engaging. I was invited to speak about my role as mayor, and I also discussed the working partnerships we have with iwi in our district, and strong bonds being formed.</p> <p>Thank you to my most gracious host Te Ao Marama Maaka, I value these engagements with you a great deal.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 13 February</b></p>	<p><b>Council meeting</b></p> <p>This meeting saw items on the proposed Matamata Stadium and headon stadium with a submission from Sport Waikato, Audit and Risk Committee Charter update, Enviroschools Programme – six month report and the Mayoral Diary tabled.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the meeting workshops were held on topics of Road Safety Policy, Smoke free policy, Freedom Camping Bylaw, Provincial Growth Fund with Jamie MacDuff in attendance, Passenger Transport with Morrinsville College principal John Inger presenting, and Waikato Regional presenting</p> <p><b>Meeting with Jamie MacDuff</b></p> <p>CEO Don McLeod and I Met with Jamie MacDuff, the consultant from Resolve Group, along with Council staff to discuss establishment of the Provincial Growth Fund projects. Good progress is being made in preparing project plans, timelines, and identifying project risks. Information is being prepared for MBIE acceptance as part of the funding contracts with government. We discussed with Jamie the formation of the governance groups and the implementation of the two projects. Jaime was asked to update council.</p>
<p><b>Friday 15 February</b></p>	<p><b>Volunteer Youth Ambassadors (VYA)</b></p> <p>The first meeting of the year got underway at 7.30am in the Te Aroha College library. Our new Chair for 2019 is Ruby Stevens from Morrinsville College. Congratulations Ruby on your appointment as chair and to a well-run first meeting! Members introduced themselves, completed paperwork, a work programme for the year ahead was established. Watch out for Gumboot Day!</p> <p><b>Morrinsville Total Rehab Scooter Club</b></p> <p>I awarded an extra prize to the scooter club as a special Mayoral award to recognise their efforts in the Morrinsville Christmas Parade. The morning tea with them was very positive and a list has been emailed on suggesting upgrades to our curbs etc.</p> <p><b>Meeting with Hon Jacqui Dean</b></p> <p>CEO Don McLeod and I were invited by Tim Van der Molen to meet with National spokesperson for Local Government the Hon Jacqui Dean. We talked of local issues, 3 Waters and highlighted positives in our district.</p> 

	<p><b>Meeting with Korean visitors</b></p> <p>Two schools in our district are currently hosting international students from Inje County in Korea. I met the accompanying teachers and representatives from Inje to welcome them to our district.</p>
<p><b>Monday 18 February</b></p>	<p><b>3 Waters National Party policy development</b></p> <p>CEO Don McLeod and I were invited to be part of a discussion group on 3 Waters with the National Party to help them understand local government's position with regards to 3 Waters.</p> <p>Feedback from various MPs attending reported that the day was not only worthwhile, but the discussions that took place and the ideas that were presented to them have added to their understanding of the issues surrounding the 3 waters.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 19 February</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting with Bruce McInnes</b></p> <p>Bruce is the new plant manager of Open Country Dairy, we met to discuss Waharoa odour issues and plans at Open Country Dairy going forward.</p> <p><b>Morrinsville Business After 5 (BA5)</b></p> <p>Hosted by Morrinsville Senior Citizens Association at the refurbished Rotary Community Centre meeting rooms. There was an excellent turn out from the business community and we were all impressed with the maintenance and upgrade taking place.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 20 February</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting with Hon Nanaia Mahuta</b></p> <p>The National Council board was asked to meet with the Minister for Local Government to discuss the 3 Waters issue and our Board letter to the Prime Minister and Ministers sent before Christmas.</p>
<p><b>Thursday 21 February</b></p>	<p><b>Education reforms meeting</b></p> <p>Tim Van der Molen hosted Nicki Kaye at the Matamata-Memorial and Civic Centre for a discussion on the future of our education system and an opportunity to share views on proposals from the Tomorrow's School's Review Taskforce.</p> <p>I was very pleased to see representatives from across the district, principals, board chairs and teachers.</p>
<p><b>Friday 22 February</b></p>	<p><b>Matamata Racing Club 100 year celebration</b></p> <p>I was proud to be with the racing club committee to support them in this milestone. We value our equine community and the economic contribution they bring to our district.</p> <p>The race course is like their own village at 4 in the morning, they are up working out long before we all surface for the day!</p> <p>I wished the club all the best for the weekend's 50th running of the Breeders Stakes race. How far it has come from the inaugural stake money of \$2,200 in 1969 to \$100,000 in 2019!</p> <p>I am confident our racing club will be around for another 100 years to come.</p>





**Saturday  
23 February**

### **Jazz Day - Oak Lane Lodge Morrinsville**

Every February, Oak Lane Lodge hosts a Charity Event which raises money for the local Community. It is a family day where guests bring a picnic and listen to great music. Rex and I enjoyed the wonderful music by some very talented musicians!

One of the highlights of the Jazz Day is the Charity Auction where they auction off fantastic items for their chosen Charities.

Congratulations to the organising committee for yet another successful event, all the time and effort you put in behind the scenes has certainly paid off!

### **Matamata Breeder Stakes Races**

The Matamata Racing Club Breeder Stakes meeting attracted a large crowd for the 50<sup>th</sup> Breeders Stakes race day.

It had everything from fashion in the field, entertainment for the children and of course lots of opportunity to mix and mingle with friends and put on a bet or two if you are that way inclined!

Congratulations Matamata Racing club and committee on your 100 year anniversary.

**Monday  
25 February**

### **Meeting with NZTA**

CEO Don McLeod and I met with NZTA and as a result, NZTA will be further investigating accident hot spots in Matamata and Morrinsville.

These areas include Avenue Road in Morrinsville, the Hopkins Road/SH29 intersection near Chookys Auto and the implementation of a pedestrian crossing on Firth Street, near the Broadway/SH27 roundabout in Matamata.

I have been raising concerns for some years and was pleased with the reception I received from NZTA senior Manager Kaye Clarke.

There is a community desire to have safety works done in these areas in particular. We had a very good meeting and I am thrilled to work alongside Kaye who will help us improve the safety on our roads.

On SH29 High crash signs have been implemented and electronic reduce speed signs will be coming soon. One of our MPDC engineers has also recommended clear road markings and it's something that needs to be considered seriously.

	<p>NZTA will also be investigating a crossing near the Broadway/SH24 roundabout which will allow children travelling to and from school and residents of the nearby rest homes to get across Firth Street safely.</p> <p><b>Waikato Mayoral Forum</b></p> <p>The meeting had a very full agenda covering a number of topics, they included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crown Infrastructure Partners - Rural Broadband 12/MBSF and Ultra-fast Broadband programmes update Nick Manning, GM Government and Regulatory Affairs</li> <li>• Three Waters Review and Essential Freshwater Programme - update by Mayor Brian Hanna, Waitomo District Council Don McLeod, Chief Executive, Matamata Piako District Council Vaughan Payne, Chief Executive, Waikato Regional Council</li> <li>• Regional Water Services Collaboration – update by Don McLeod, Chief Executive, Matamata Piako District Council Dawn Inglis, Manager – RATA, Waikato Road Asset Technical Accord</li> <li>• Waikato Wellbeing report; Karen Bennett, Manager – Chief Executive’s Office, Waikato Regional Council</li> <li>• Waikato-Hamilton Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Court report Mayor Andrew King, Hamilton City Council Jason Howarth, Issues Assistant to the Mayor</li> <li>• Waikato LASS - update Gavin Ion, Chief Executive, Waikato District Council</li> <li>• Te Waka – update Dallas Fisher, Chair, Waikato REDA Board Michael Bassett-Foss, CEO, Te Waka</li> <li>• Appointment of Iwi Representatives on the Te Waka Board Rukumoana Schaafhausen, Co-Chair, Waikato Plan Leadership Committee</li> <li>• Waikato Plan – overview of progress Tracey May, Director, Science and Strategy, Waikato Regional Council</li> <li>• Hamilton to Auckland corridor – update Blair Bowcott, Director – Special Projects, Hamilton City Council</li> <li>• Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipa River Catchments - update Tracey May, Director Science and Strategy, Waikato Regional Council</li> <li>• Triennial Agreement – process for review Vaughan Payne, Chief Executive, Waikato Regional Council</li> <li>• Upper North Island Supply Chain Panel – update Vaughan Payne, Chief Executive, Waikato Regional Council</li> <li>• Collaboration with new government - discussion Round table discussion to update on collective meetings</li> </ul> <p><b>Meeting regarding policing in Te Aroha</b></p> <p>I met with a member of the Community Patrol to discuss his experiences of crime in Te Aroha and what they are seeing as ‘hot spots’.</p> <p><b>Citizenship Ceremony</b></p> <p>We welcomed 10 new citizens to our district at a ceremony held in the Council boardroom in Te Aroha. With participants permission we live stream these events on Councils Facebook page, tune in next time to see what goes on!</p>
<b>Tuesday 26 February</b>	<p><b>Meeting re Wardville Hall</b></p> <p>Council staff and I met with Wardville Hall representative Selwyn Tappin to talk about lighting at the tennis courts and other property maintenance.</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Corporate and Operations Meeting</b>

<p><b>27 February</b></p>	<p>Chaired by Councillor Ash Tanner, this meeting comprised the agenda topics of Draft Annual Plan 2019/20, Six Month report, Health and Safety report, CEO report, and two long service presentations to Council Staff.</p> <p>This year Bryan Turner has completed 30 years with MPDC and Sheree O'Brien 25 years.</p> <div data-bbox="338 313 804 752" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="963 313 1406 752" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Workshops were held at the conclusion of the meeting on Rubbish Bag Fees, Hauraki Gulf Forum funding, and Housing, Road Naming policy</p> <p><b>Waikato Chamber of Commerce – Conversation with Hon Simon Bridges</b>  The Waikato chamber arranged a meeting with leader of the opposition Hon Simon Bridges and extended the invitation to Morrinsville Chamber members.</p> <p>The event was a good mix of networking and open conversation with Simon and the members in attendance.</p> <p><b>Walton Hall – Aerodrome meeting</b>  A meeting was arranged by Walton residents to discuss the reserve management plan process with regard to the Waharoa Aerodrome. Council staff members Mark Naude and Rebekah Duffin were in attendance to answer questions.</p> <p>Walton residents will hopefully have a better understanding now of the process involved and will make some thoughtful submissions having had the opportunity to discuss their views.</p>
<p><b>Thursday 28 February</b></p>	<p><b>LGNZ Localism forum</b>  LGNZ is pursuing promoting localism in order to improve the way in which government in New Zealand works, and increase its responsiveness to the needs and aspirations of our communities.  Localism, as we use the term, involves giving greater voice and choice to communities about the nature of local public services and how they are delivered.</p> <p>During the day we heard from presenters on what we are trying to fix, why, and how LGNZ will go about this.</p>