

**Chairperson and Community Board Members**  
ŌTAKI COMMUNITY BOARD

21 FEBRUARY 2017

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

**COMMUNITY BOARD ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMUNITY BOARD CONFERENCE 2017**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 This report invites the Ōtaki Community Board to approve the attendance of one or two Board members at the New Zealand Community Board Conference being held in Methven, 12-13 May 2017.

**DELEGATION**

- 2 The Community Board has the authority to consider this matter under Section D of the Governance Structure and Delegations document:

*Setting priorities for and expending an annual training and development budget allocated by Council.*

**BACKGROUND**

- 3 The conference is being hosted by the Ashburton District Council and the Methven Community Board. The theme is 'Making 1 + 1 = 3' or, how can we as boards achieve more for our communities with the resources we are given. Elected member feedback about attending previous conferences has been very positive.
- 4 The previous two Community Board conferences were held in Wanaka in 2013 and the Bay of Islands in 2015. Attached, for information, is a report (see Appendix 1) by a member of the Ōtaki Community Board sharing her experiences from the 2015 Conference. This report was previously published in the Elected Members' Bulletin.
- 5 At previous conferences there have been workshops where elected members could share success stories and innovative planning initiatives illustrating the way that boards are successfully accepting the challenges that leadership in our communities demand.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**Issues**

- 6 At the time of writing there is still scant information available about the Community Boards' Conference (which is held every two years).

**Financial Considerations**

- 7 In 2012 Council made the decision to delegate to Community Boards an amount of \$3,000 per annum to enable Boards to manage their own training and

development programmes. For 2016/17 the total budget available is \$3,468. The costs of attendance per person are estimated to be the following:

Registration	\$ 745
Flights	\$ 108
Accommodation	\$ 260 (based on 2 nights @ \$130 per night)
Transfers	\$ 150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,263 (excl GST)</b>

- 8 Therefore the Board is invited to consider approving the attendance of one or two members at the Conference.

### Legal Considerations

- 9 There are no legal considerations.

### Publicity Considerations

- 10 The Board member/s attending the event will be expected to produce a written report in a timely fashion on their return and this will be published in the Elected Members' Bulletin.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11 That the Ōtaki Community Board approves the attendance of ..... and ..... at the New Zealand Community Board Conference in Methven on 12-13 May 2017.
- 12 That the Board Chair is authorised to appoint another delegate in the event that the original nominee cannot attend.
- 13 That the delegate/s will provide in a timely fashion written reports on their experience for publication in the Elected Members' Bulletin.

**Report prepared by:**

**Approved for submission:**

**Approved for submission:**

Annette McLaughlin

Wayne Maxwell

Max Pedersen

**Democracy Services Advisor**

**Group Manager  
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### ATTACHMENT

Appendix 1 Report from a member of the Ōtaki Community Board – May 2015

**NZ COMMUNITY BOARDS CONFERENCE 2015  
INFLUENCING CHANGE**

**REPORT FROM CHRISTINE PAPPS, ŌTAKI COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER**

The chance to attend the national community boards conference is one which all board members should take advantage of when the opportunity arises.

I was very pleased to be one of those chosen to attend from the Kapiti Coast District.

The programme looked interesting and there was the chance to network with board members from throughout the country with different perspectives and, in many cases, different board structures and abilities to manage and effect change within their areas.

Thanks to the weather “bomb” which hit the coast on the morning we were due to leave, our departure looked doubtful. Superb work by ‘camp mother’ Annette McLaughlin meant that the shuttle arrived on time and we found our way past the Centennial Highway slip, flooding and road blocks to get to the airport on time.

One of the workshop speakers whom I had most wanted to hear was former Mayor Jenny Rowan. She was not as lucky as flooding trapped her on her Paekakariki property and she could not get out.

We left in rain and arrived in rain but fortunately the weather settled.

Like most conferences it had good bits and bad bits. The best presentations I heard were from Far North District Deputy Mayor, Tania McInnes and Hone Mihaka from TaiaMai Tours.

Tania talked about Focus Paihia, a group of locals set up to see what could be done to make the Paihia district into something more attractive and user friendly for both tourists and locals. Tania highlighted an award winning project which related to the development of the waterfront.

The key element was a rather run down little sow’s ear of a carpark area which the Council gave to the group to turn into a silk purse, something they managed extremely well. Bare tarmac and rough curbing is now an area with comfortable and attractive seating, a water bottle filling stations, a free local library made out of an old telephone box, a tic-tac-toe with model fish for the noughts and crosses, a piano and a greatly enhanced existing toilet block.

I would encourage you all to go to the Focus Paihia website to check it out. The video which can be viewed on their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/FocusPaihia>) gives a good idea of what’s been achieved in that small area.

When we had some free time I was able to go down to Paihia and visit the former carpark. Very impressive. I took pictures but I'm afraid my photographic skills leave something to be desired.

Focus Paihia continues to develop the area. I was inspired by the ideas and by speaker, Tania McInnes and I want to encourage the Otaki Community Board and associated community groups to look at some of the ideas and concepts.

Hone Mihaka who runs and leads a tourism operation in the Far North was one of those delightful speakers who gets people involved and wanting to know more. He provides tourists with an authentic look at Nga Puhi culture. These kinds of operations always seem to work best when they are lead by charismatic individuals. Hone is one of those.

These were two of the highlights of the programme for me and they made it well worth attending.

Having said that, the workshop sessions I attended were not as inspiring but that is the good and the bad of any conference.

The most useful part of the conference was the opportunity to network with our own community board members, something we seem to have lost in this current triennium, and to meet with people from other parts of the country with other views and experiences.