



Business Kapiti Horowhenua Inc.
PO Box 783
Paraparaumu 5252



Chair Report to Annual General Meeting, 6 April 2017

In this report I will outline our strategic intent, summarise the changes since the last AGM, give an outline of our operations, and acknowledge those people who have contributed.

Our enduring strategic objectives were slightly tweaked in December 2016:

- Recognised Awards: THE must attend business event with high regional recognition
- Attractive and valuable to entrants and sponsors
- A sustainable organisation: delivering stakeholder value, and ensuring we maintain a cashflow positive event
- Platform for growth: leveraging the Awards encourage greater business results in entrants, and regional economic growth more broadly

We reasonably feel that the last few years have been very successful, with consistent sell-outs and excellent feedback.

Looking at the significant events and changes in the last 12 months, we:

- Made and executed plans for board, judges and assessor succession
- Added the Age Friendly customer choice award, in conjunction with the Kapiti Retirement Trust
- Achieved a record 50 entrants for the customer choice awards; with many thanks to Helene Judge and her team
- Held a workshop for key stakeholders to help create a common vision for the awards
- Published the 2nd edition of the Passion & Purpose e-book; thank you Stephen Leslie.
- Had another excellent event in Levin, with 365 attendees and a very well received contemporary national comedian as the MC

So far in 2017 we:

- Successfully made the critical transition of our event, marketing and sponsorship manager and Board Secretary. We welcome Carmel Leonard who has made an excellent start
- Reviewed why many potential entrants do not go enter, and made changes to how we do things and how we portray the awards
- Have a new, fresher and more user-friendly website; with many thanks to Sarah McMurray at GTB IT Solutions for an effort above and beyond
- Have a much-improved system for booking tickets
- Have a new Facebook page, which is up and will be launched shortly

We continue to convene and organise the Kapiti Horowhenua Business Hall of Fame and 2016 saw two more deserving business people inducted and publically recognised.

BKH itself remains a volunteer driven not-for-profit incorporated society. The board have been a real team over the last year and put a lot of effort into these changes and the running of the awards. The Board members for the 2016/17 year were:

- Ross Leggett
- Graham Smellie
- Diane Prow
- Angela Buswell
- Helen Beban
- Ian Fenwick as Treasurer
- Mark Ternent as Chair
- Steve Gregan was co-opted to the Board in August 2016.

Kirsten Kilmister was our Event Organiser and board Secretary until December 2016; Carmel Leonard assumed the role from January 2017.

Many thanks to the Board, Many thanks also to:

- Stephen Lesley for helping us with our press releases and case studies
- Chris Ineson for writing the winners case study
- Helene Judge as our energised Entry Coordinator
- The 2016 Assessors Heather Hutchings and Richard Eltherington. Assisted by Graham Smellie as standby assessor, and Mark Ternent as Chief Assessor
- Our judges – Head Judge Suzanne Snively and her colleagues Gus van der Roer, Gerry McCullough and Steph Dyhrberg

Finally, thanks to our sponsors. Our sponsors – at all levels – remain critical to us doing what we do. We acknowledge and thank them all. Special thanks to Electra, the naming sponsor for the entire awards history

All in all, ladies and gentlemen, it's been another successful 12 months for BKH and the Electra Awards. We believe we are the longest running regional awards, and this year we have assumed the mantle of "New Zealand's premier regional business awards".

Our job **right now**, and we ask for your help, is to get plenty of entrants into the 2017 awards. Then in July we'll be making a fuss about the Customer Choice awards, and then in September we'll be selling tickets to another excellent awards evening to be held on Friday 27th October at Southwards. See you there.

Mark Ternent MNZM
Chairman
Business Kapiti Horowhenua Inc.