



Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa
Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa

Warm greetings to you all, welcome.

I am pleased to present the Co-Chair's report on behalf of the Board of Community Networks Wellington to the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

I would also like to acknowledge our community groups, members and individuals who are working every day in our communities to provide comfort, shelter, kai, advice and connections to the vulnerable and those who are going through challenging times, be that either temporary or a longer time frame our communities are supported and served by Community Networks Wellington.

One of the most important and valued pieces Community Networks Wellington brings to us all is connection. Being connected, being heard, listened to, and being present are all pieces of a vibrant and healthy community.

Our organisation is a reflection of the community organisations supporting the local communities and this is reflected in our Executive Members who donate more time, expertise and energy into ensuring we as an organisation are able to deliver to our communities. I would like to acknowledge all our Executive Members, these are:

- Julia Hennessy, Co-chair Presbyterian Support Central - Family Works
- Juliane Tandy, Treasurer Citizens Advice Bureau – Karori
(WHO RESIGNED LAST MONTH DUE TO INCREASED WORKLOAD)
- Wiremu Richards BGI *(WHO TOOK OVER FROM DONNA REDMOND)*
- Dan Mustapic Atareira
- Kate Scarlett & Max Scott Murray Community Law Wellington & Hutt Valley
- Diana Wolken Utility Disputes

And long-standing Exec member Vicki Hirini from The Salvation Army who retired earlier this year.

We need to also acknowledge the organisations that our Executive members work for. Often these organisations give freely the time of their employee to attend our meetings, forums and activities that make up the work of our Executive members on a regular basis.

We have been blessed over many years to have great staff at CNW and this is especially true for our wonderful staff today. Debbie Delaney has consistently kept our office running, balancing books and ensuring we are all well prepared, Janette Ritchie is producing our excellent newsletter and supplements, website and member database. Also, a big thank you to Janette for her excellent and timely work getting information out and with disruption list and everything 'Covid' (she really has done some awesome

work). And thank you to Marika Pratley who has been with us on a 6 month contract doing community engagement.

The Radio Show remains popular with consistent bookings and we are still well supported at our monthly hui's. However, with covid last year our August to October meetings were cancelled, we had our AGM in November with Dr Michael Baker as our speaker, this year our first meeting in February was by zoom and then again in March with speakers from Kahungugu Whanau Services talking to us about the covid response Te Pou Maanaki. In May and June it seemed members were really ready to reconnect in person and we had a bigger than usual turnout with Mayor Andy Foster attending in May to thank our members for their mahi over the year, we have also had a member profile from Aphasia.

I would like to take this time to also acknowledge and thank our funders: Wellington City Council, The Wellington Community Trust and COGS.

I would like to finish with a brief look forward

Connections are the glue that hold communities together, with Wellington Community Networks we have over many years developed, evolved and grown to one of the most connected communities within Aotearoa. We are all now operating in a manner and environment that we have never experienced before. There is no way the world will go back to the way it was pre-covid ever! Now, more than any time in our history is it important to stay connected, look for connections and support our whole communities.

Nāku te rourou, nāu te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi

Julia Hennessy

Co-chairs Community Networks Wellington

September 2022