

**THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY OF NORTHLAND INCORPORATED**

**Minutes of the 120th Annual General Meeting**

**Held at The Orchard, Puawai meeting room, Cnr Vine & Walton St, Whangārei**

**Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5.00 pm**

Tim Robinson (President) welcomed members to the 120th Northland Chamber.

**Present**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Business Name</b>
Tim Robinson	Bernina Northland
Mayor Vince Cocurullo	Cocurullo's Ltd/Whangārei District Council
Anna Curnow	Decision Works Ltd
Tania McInnes	GBT Ventures Ltd
Danny Douglas	Gilmore Taylor Associates Ltd
Barry Trass	Homeworld
Leo Unger	Human Assets
Michelle Gibson	Keith Andrews
Stephen Gibson	Marsden Maritime Holdings
Janine Abernethy	Marsden Metals Group Ltd
Dean Abel	Mentor
Paulette Scrooby	NorthChamber
Janette Dobbs	NorthChamber
Barry Caldwell	NorthChamber
Paul Linton	Northland Inc
Sue Walters	Northland Scaffolding
Natalie Blandford	Project Apōpō
Jules Smith	The Bach
Andrew Fergus	Ultra IT
Cr Carol Peters	Whangarei District Council
Pete Gregory	Whangarei District Council

**Apologies**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Business Name</b>
Jonathan Reeves	Harcourts Whangarei
Barbara Jaques	Mindmoves Coaching & Training
Trevor Griffiths	Scope Total Project Partners

**Resolved**

**"That the apologies be accepted"**

**Moved: Tim Robinson**

**Seconded: Sue Walters**

**All in favour**

**Obituaries**

Tim asked that the meeting acknowledged the passing of the following member and passed our condolences on to their family.

Ces Burke

## **Minutes of the previous AGM**

### **Resolved**

**"That the minutes of the 119th AGM on 9th March 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record"**

**Moved: Dean Abel**

**Seconded: Mayor Vince Cocurullo All in favour**

### **Matters Arising**

No Matters Arising

The following reports were included within the Annual Report, which was emailed before the start of the AGM.

### **President Report**

Tim Robinson gave an overview of his tables report, noting the following:

- We are dealing with a continually changing environment. Cyclone Gabrielle's impact not as bad here as in Hawkes Bay and the East Coast, but there are still pockets of businesses who have had issues to deal with.
- Chamber role is to be a facilitator/navigator/connector for the business community
- Overview of Chamber staff
- There have been several changes over the last 8 months. We have taken on a Pakihi Māori development role with Barry Caldwell starting in July which coincided with Steve Smith going on extended medical leave resulting in him leaving in December. Dee Field and Joanna Mitchell both started a couple of weeks later. Joanna left in December due to health and family reasons. Barry has recently resigned for the same reasons.
- Paulette Scrooby has done a sterling job as Acting CE, coping with 3 ½ staff out of the 6 she started with. It is a tribute to Paulette and Janette that the Chamber still keeps going, they are model staff.
- Barry has done a stunning job connecting with Pakihi Māori and provided the Chamber with a new lens around Te Ao Māori. He will be missed.
- Great things we have done:
  - Formalise relationship with EMA
  - Continue to advocate on behalf of members, making their voice heard.
- Immediate priority is to review and reshape going forward.

**Moved: Tim Robinson**

**Seconded: Janine Abernethy All in favour**

### **Chief Executive Report**

Paulette Scrooby advised that Tim had covered a lot of what was in her report too.

The word for 2022 was a year of collaboration. We have pulled together with organisations to support business in Northland.

#### **Our 4 key pou:**

We need to tie what we do back into these things, Advocacy, Ease of Business, Networking and Leadership.

#### **Membership**

Paulette covered the dip in membership. Reasons have been mainly, businesses closing or not utilising Chamber services, which is covered in the exit survey.

#### **Networking & connecting**

66 Events

- 18 BA5
- 16 Awards
- 32 collaborative events including Westpac Smarts, Whangārei District Council and Ministry of Social Development

### **Pakihi Māori role**

Barry has made a significant contribution and has made Pakihi more comfortable and reassured with working with the NorthChamber. He has also fitted in well and made himself available for all Chamber activities.

### **Te Reo journey**

Staff took on study with Te Wananga o Aotearoa, with Northland Inc. This has been a great encouraging bonding between the organisations. Paulette acknowledged Piripi Moore from Northland Inc for his role in this.

We are determined to carry on learnings through the coming years.

### **Engaged in:**

- CitySafe governance – discussing Youth crime and creating a comprehensive CBD database.
- Te Pukenga Tertiary Precinct
- Oruku landing
- Economic Recovery Working Group
- Regional Skills Leadership Group
- Renewable energy Zone
- Arohata te Taiao
- Working with Ministry of Social Development, EMA, Whangārei District Council and Northland Inc. among others.

A big thank you to The Orchard Business & event Hub and Northland Inc

Acknowledged Alliance partners and excitement over the launch of the Chamber Business Partner App. Our regional partner Mitre 10 is also included.

### **Business Mentors New Zealand**

There has been a slight change in the way we deliver this contract for Northland. New platform helps with the matches which are now made at head office. NorthChamber still does the mentor and mentee engagement and discovery conversations.

Bream Bay Business Hub – work in progress along with The Seed in Dargaville and other business associations in Northland.

### **Business Excellence Awards**

2022 saw a jump in entries from mid-north long with finalists and winners.

Paulette acknowledged the Board and the work they have done in what has been a challenging year. Especially Tim who has put in many hours since Steve left and has been supporting the team. Also the Council representatives for their feedback.

Are we still relevant? Paulette advised she has been asking this question since she started with the Chamber in 2020. She feels we are, and that it is important for us and other organisations we work with to define our swim lanes.

With 22,000 members nationwide, the core function is still to support our members wherever possible.

Paulette thanked Barry, Janette and Dee, for their mahi especially over the last 6 months.

She would like to encourage members to speak up – have the hard conversations. The door is always open.

**Moved: Danny Douglas**

**Seconded: Natalie Blandford**

**All in favour**

## **Financial Report**

Treasurer's Report by Danny Douglas – year ended 31 December 2022

Treasurer Danny Douglas spoke to the report.

Thank you to Paulette, Janette, Steve, Barry and Dee for their work for the Chamber

### **Profitability**

The Chamber has reported a net profit of \$29,231 for the year compared to losses of \$22,234 in 2021 and \$17,184 in 2020. In this challenging time want to thank the hard work from all the staff over the last 12 months Steve, Janette, Paulette, Barry, Fiona and Davinia have all done in a tough year. The year has seen a lot of additional work undertaken and with the postponement of the Awards has created challenging times.

### **Revenue**

Overall revenue increased to \$375k from \$264k with 2022 being helped by a large increase of 2 years of Business Excellence awards income, Revenue is actually up approx.

### **Changes in revenue streams:**

- Business awards held steady at \$26-30k for last few years was moved to 2022
- With 2021 and 2022 awards – 2021 no major awards ceremony/evening so costs down significantly but major increase in Staff time to accommodate.
- Business Mentors was up 4.5k
- Membership subscriptions were down to 119k. Membership total at 465 compared to 500 in 2021
- We still receive great support from Vodafone, OfficeMax, Noel Leeming and all alliance partners.
- We have had the Ministry of Social Development work that has been done on the engaging Māori business, employment enhancement. I would like to thank the MSD for the support and assistance they have given us this year and the ongoing future relationship that is helping with events.
- Westpac Smarts Business Events

### **Expenses**

- Total expenses were up by approximately \$59k. The major area was staff remuneration. This is offset by Māori development from MSD. Most other expenses have resulted in similar costs to prior year or slight increase over the prior year.

### **Financial position**

- As at 31 December the Chamber held \$197K of assets made up of:

Bank balances	\$163k
Debtors	\$ 27k
Equip	\$ 6k includes cost of the Chamber share of Orchard fitout
Total Assets	\$197k
Less Liabilities	\$136k – suppliers and IRD employee entitlements, income in advance of \$102k, Ruakaka chamber \$7.2k,
Income in advance	- contains funds from MSD, and Westpac
Giving Accumulated Members Fund - \$61k up from \$32k in 2021	

### **Future Focus**

- Continue to expand revenue streams, as shown by MSD assistance and Events,
- Utilise funds to continue to develop services and revenue streams to help Northland business.

Again I offer thanks the Chamber staff for all of their work over the last 12 months.

Danny was asked "Does the Chamber have enough to carry on? Does the Chamber have a war chest?"

Danny advised that yes the Chamber has the finances to carry on, but no war chest.

Resolved "That the financial statements be approved"

**Moved: Danny Douglas**

**Seconded: Tim Robinson**

**All in favour**



## **Election for Treasurer**

“As per the nominations received prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 closure date, the following person be elected nominated to the position of Treasurer.”

**Motion – “That the following person be elected unopposed to the position of Treasurer”**

Danny Douglas	Gilmore Taylor Associates	Treasurer
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**Moved: Janine Abernethy**

**Seconded: Andrew Fergus**

**All in favour**

## **Election of Board**

Board of Directors

“As per the nominations received prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 closure date, the following persons have been nominated for the position of Board member”

The following current Board members qualify to automatically retain their position on the Board as per the constitution.

*Clause 7 (g) Board Members shall hold office for a period of 2 years at which time the board member shall automatically resign. At this time if the Board member wished to stay on the board they must be re-nominated by a financial member of the Chamber for re-election.*

Murray Broadbelt	Employer Services Ltd	Board of Directors
Janine Abernethy	Marsden Metals Group Ltd	Board of Directors
Natalie Blandford	Project Apōpō	Board of Directors

**The following members have been nominated for election to the Chamber Board**

**Motion – “That as per the nominations received prior to the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 closure date, the following persons will be elected to the position of Board member unopposed.”**

Trevor Griffiths	Scope Projects Ltd	Board of Directors
Stephen Gibson	Marsden Maritime Holdings Ltd	Board of Directors
Doug Sutton	Cave Farms	Board of Directors
Tania McInnes	GBT Ventures Ltd	Board of Directors

**Moved: Sue Walters**

**Seconded: Danny Douglas**

**All in favour**

Paulette congratulated the new Board and handed back to Tim.

## **General Business**

Natalie Blandford wished it to be noted that all Board members should receive a copy of the Chamber constitution to be aware of the rules for the organisation.

Tim thanked all of the members for their attendance, welcomed the new Board and invited everyone to the Chamber Business After 5, taking place after the AGM.

Conclusion of Formal Meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.39 p.m.