

MEETING: KAIKOHE-HOKIANGA COMMUNITY BOARD
2 OCTOBER 2019

ITEM: CHAIR'S REPORT

AUTHOR: CHAIR MIKE EDMONDS

DATE OF REPORT: 11 SEPTEMBER 2019

Recommendations Contained in Chair's Report

“that the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board recommend to the CE that he investigate the costs and benefits of a governance training program and make a recommendation to the council that a budget be created in the LTP for candidate governance training in the year leading up to each local government elections”

“that the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board request, of the FNDC, that the Elected Member's Training Policy be changed to give the community boards final approval of their member's training”

“that the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board recognise the support that the FNDC, and its CE and staff have given the board over the last three years.”

Governance Training For Candidates

I have been observing the candidates for the upcoming elections. I am concerned that, in the main, they do not have the experience to be able to hit the ground running in the next term. This will make it harder for the community board to achieve its goals. This also holds true for council.

While training is available to elected members, not all of them take it up, and not all of them use it for governance training. In any case, six months or 18 months later is too late.

I'd like to see the Far North District Council offer free governance training for prospective candidates in the year leading up to elections. Candidates could then use a graduation certificate in their campaign.

This program might generate interest in being a candidate, and maybe more interest in voting because the candidates are better informed.

My recommendation is ***that the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board recommend to the CE that he investigate the costs and benefits of a governance training program and make a recommendation to the council that a budget be created in the LTP for candidate governance training in the year leading up to each local government elections.***

Elected Member Training Policy

The Elected Member Training Policy requires that the CE of the FNDC approve any application for training. The policy also describes what training and how much is appropriate.

I'd like to see final approval for training for community board members rest with the board itself. Provided that the rest of the policy is satisfied.

I have been told that this policy is reviewed at the beginning of each term.

I recommend ***that the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board request, of the FNDC, that the Elected Member's Training Policy be changed to give the community boards final approval of their member's training***

Thank you

This is the last meeting of the term. This board has achieved some very important and long outstanding things. Amongst them are:

- getting the Panguru flood works onto the FNDC LTP (which subsequently was also added to the NRC LTP)
- getting the depreciation system reviewed as a result of the Rawene-Omanaia water recommendation
- formulating a solution to the ongoing under verandah lighting issue in Kaikohe
- overseeing the return of footpath construction in Kaikohe and Hokianga.

I'd like to thank each of the current board members, as well as Rob Cassidy, who left midterm for Australia.

In addition we have had good support from the Governance Support department of the FNDC. The Chief Executive's Office has been invaluable, and the other staff of the FNDC have also helped the community board achieve its goals.

The councilors and mayor have also been supportive this term, and have, on occasion, gone above and beyond in their support of our community board and community boards in general.

I recommend ***that the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board recognise the support that the FNDC, and its CE and staff have given the board over the last three years.***