

Report from: Lawrie Atkinson  
Community Board member  
Whatuwhiwhi Subdivision

To: Community Board

Subject: NZ Community Board Conference 2019 New Plymouth

Date: 11 – 14 April 2019

Overall the conference was excellent, with very informative workshops

I think the workshop '**Looking Forward, encouraging youth and talent**', the opening statement sums up the challenges we all face today as elected members – The world around us is constantly changing faster and faster than ever before. We are experiencing considerable change in our families, communities and environment that demand greater leadership than ever before.

**The important role of youth voice groups locally and regionally** - Youth councils, Youth voice groups, Youth advisory groups provide a voice for youth in the community.

**Community Emergency plan** - allow their issues mainly concern Floods, Earthquakes; their planning is similar to FNDC and the greater Northland area. We deal mainly with flooding and Tsunami threats. We in the Far North are better informed and prepared than most central North Island communities

**Engaging with the Maori community** – Treat Iwi as Allies