

Rerenga Awa
Canterbury Youth Workers Collective

20
21

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

REPORT

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Chairperson's Report

Kia ora,

Thank you for joining us at our AGM. It is always great coming together in this capacity to touch base, go over the last year (2019/2020) and cast a vision to the year ahead! (2020/2021).

It is my absolute honour to be the current Chair of the Rerenga Awa Board allowing me to help guide and direct some of the things we do in and around Canterbury. Wow, what a year it has been! Following on from the crazy beginning of 2020, the second half was still quite an experience with COVID-19, social distancing, QR codes, contact tracing and closed borders all becoming part of our everyday language. Putting this aside, I love to refocus on young people and youth development being at the centre of what we all do. While there are constant changes happening around us, at both at a national and international level, the 'feet on the ground' support that we all offer young people is the most important thing we do.

'Mai ngā maunga ki te moana, From the Mountains to the Sea'. This is the Whakataukī that our Kaumatua, Ruru Hona gave us along with our new name 'Rerenga Awa' at the identity launch event late last year. For me, this is a significant highlight of our year. The meaning behind Rerenga Awa is that we, those supporting young people, are the banks of the river that guide the water to the sea.

Ruru explained this so beautifully when gifting us the name; we operate alongside, supporting, guiding, and directing young people along their journey from tamariki (children) through the often-tumultuous time of being taiohi (Youth/teenagers) towards ki a pakeke (becoming adults). Rerenga Awa, 'Mai Ngā Maunga Ki Te Moana'.

On this note, I would like to offer a special thanks to Ruru Hona for his ongoing support and guidance as our Kaumatua. The depth and breadth of your knowledge is inspirational and really came out as you directed our journey to the renaming and rebranding of Canterbury Youth Workers to Rerenga Awa and the new logo that goes along with it. For me personally, hearing your thoughts, ideas and discussions always challenges me to keep growing in my own practice. I would also like to thank the Tangata Whenua Kaitohutohu who supports Ruru and all of us in our mahi.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the staff of Rerenga Awa, Natalia, Harriet, Hamish, Hannah, Penny and Tim. Each of you helps to bring the sector together for targeted training, strategic networking, and timely support. The insight offered by you all benefits us so much.

None of what we do would be possible without the amazing and generous support we get from the Wayne Francis Charitable Trust, the Rātā Foundation, the Christchurch City Council, Te Puni Kokiri, the Department of Internal Affairs (Youth Worker Training Scheme, COGS, Lottery Fund and the special Lottery Wellbeing Fund), Pub Charity, Lion Foundation, MSD Community Capability and Resiliency Fund - thank you all so much.

And last but not least, a big thank you to our Rerenga Awa Board, Cooper Sides, Amanda Murray, Madeline Francis, Prisca Pieters, Hannah Dunlop, Sidney Tauamiti and Cruise Erueti. We would also like to acknowledge Chris Allen who offered his time to the Board before personal circumstances meant that he needed to prioritise other things.

I also want to acknowledge the board members who stepped down at the last AGM but were crucial to the support of the organisation over the COVID-19 lockdown. Thank you all so much for your time this year. It has been great coming together as youth work practitioners and being able to discuss and debate the topics and issues as needed for Rerenga Awa.

Go well, bring on the year ahead....

Luke Gardiner



Lockdown Meeting - Rerenga Awa Board, 2019 - 2020

Treasurer's Report

April 2020 - March 2021

Kia ora Koutou,

The role of the Treasurer for Rerenga Awa | Canterbury Youth Workers Collective Committee focuses on working closely with the staff regarding budgeting and finances, presenting the monthly financial reports and answering any Committee questions relating to these reports. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Natalia in particular for her careful and thorough management of all of the finances.

01 — Procedures

As per the Collective's policies, all of our online payments and cheques are signed by two signatories. We have three authorized Committee signatories as well as two staff who are authorized to make online payments. Thank you to those who have been signatories over the last year. We appreciate the sacrifices you make in your schedules to be able to support the organisation when payments need to be made, or cheques and funding applications need to be signed.

02 — Challenges

A change over from MYOB software to cloud-based MYOB accounting has been a bit of a disruption but it helps ensure our finances are backed up and accessible.

Over the 2020/2021 summer period due to COVID-19 there were no Big Events where Rerenga Awa normally draws a small income revenue by coordinating youth workers as part of the public safety team. However, these events have already started up again, the first being earlier this month where teams came together to support the first Matariki Fireworks at the Pier event.

03 — Funding

We would like to say a massive thank you to our funders who are listed at the end of this report. Without them, we could not make the contributions to our sector that we are. A very big thank you to Penny and Committee members who worked really hard to obtain all of this funding, and to Tim whose responsibility it will be from now.

04 — Audit

We would like to thank Community Capacity Accounting for undertaking our audit, and for working hard to have the final accounts back to us in time for this AGM. We would also like to thank Natalia for her hard work preparing the financials for the audit, this is an extremely detail-oriented and time-consuming task and the speed with which our audit was processed is a testament to the quality of her work.

The audited financial accounts are available as an attachment to this report, and the auditors outlined they are happy with the way we keep our financials and other relevant records. We would like to note that we have healthy total accumulated funds meaning we have a safety net that would allow the organisation's work to continue through a funding shortage and is our buffer in years that we see a deficit rather than a surplus.

As we head into the 2021-2022 financial year I hope that the wonderful funding we have received will continue so that Natalia, Tim, Hamish, Harriet and Penny can continue doing their fantastic work. They work tirelessly to fulfill our mission to work collaboratively to strengthen the youth development sector and meet the needs of young people, and the Committee are extremely grateful for their skills, professionalism and passion they bring.

Nāku noa, nā

Hannah Dunlop and Prisca Pieters
Treasurer

Manager's Report

Ka nui te mihi ki a koutou kua tae mai nei ki te tautoko te kaupapa o tenei ra,

I suspect at the last AGM no one thought we would still be living in a Covid world so I want to acknowledge the unique position we are in living in New Zealand, with the freedoms we have.

2021 sees Rerenga Awa turn 35 years old, which we will celebrate later in the year and I hope you can join us.

2020-2021 has seen quite a bit of change - a new name, logo, and more recently manager. Our name and logo better reflect who we are and who we desire to be. Thank you to Matua Ruru Hona, our Kaumatua, for this Taonga. Eventually, we will move from being known as Rerenga Awa | Canterbury Youth Workers Collective to just Rerenga Awa.

As a new manager, it has been a privilege meeting people across the youth development sector and hearing their involvement in Rerenga Awa, and how they appreciate the work we do in upholding the important role youth development workers play across our region.

I want to give a big shout out to Penny and all those who came before me for the amazing Mahi they have done over the last 35 years to bring us to the place we are today. What a privilege and daunting task it is to pick up the reigns from such capable people.

I've been looking back over the things Rerenga Awa has been involved in over the last financial year. It has been a lot, especially with the uncertainty of Covid and what that will bring, and I'm very proud of the team and what they pulled off over that time, particularly in the training area hosting 60 trainings and events.

We have had a completely new management team start for 'Youth Voice Canterbury' and they have done a fantastic job picking up from the previous team as well as working hard to implement recommendations from a review of Youth Voice Canterbury. So thank you to the management team for picking up YVC and its heartbeat, but also for having the courage to work through and implement the recommended changes. We look forward to seeing YVC continue to flourish in serving the Youth Participation sector.

YVC are Kaitiaki of the youth audit tool, and we have secured funding to continue to develop this tool. Hannah Dunlop has come on board to coordinate this and her team is in the process of completing 20 audits across the region. It's a fantastic tool and it's exciting to see this gain traction.

To the Tangata Whenua Kaitohutohu, thank you for continuing to lead in our bicultural journey. We are stronger as an organisation for your wisdom, leadership and guidance in this area.

To the staff of Rerenga Awa, Penny, Hamish, Harriet, Natalia, and Hannah you each bring such unique skills and perspectives that complement each other. It has been a joy to step into the team, be welcomed and supported by each of you as I fumble my way around learning what needs to be done. I wouldn't hesitate to say you are all experts in your field.

Thanks to Fred and the team at YCD for your support of Rerenga Awa by continuing to allow Natalia to use your building while she bounces between working for you and for Rerenga Awa. Thanks to Gap Filler for hosting us on such a great site, it's wonderful to be so central. To the board, thank you for your support of staff, the projects we are involved in, and for your guidance and direction of the organisation. You have done a great job in the governance space.

To our funders, it has been a pleasure to come into Rerenga Awa knowing it is in a financially stable position due to your support. Thanks particularly to our consistent funders and those who have supported us with multi-year funding. Luke has listed funders in his report so I won't repeat them all here, but thank you.

To you as members, thank you all for your continued support and direction of Rerenga Awa. We are a unique organisation that is there to serve its members but it does so much more than that and supports so much wider. That is something to cherish and celebrate, that we are supported to connect with a wide range of people and organisations for the benefit of young people.

The benefit and development of young people of this region continues to be the primary driver of the work we do. Our Rangatahi are taonga and they are our future, so let's continue to work together for them.

Nō reira, tena koutou tena koutou tena koutou katoa,

Tim Perry



Ngā mihi nui e hoa mā

I just want to make a quick acknowledgement that a couple of months before this AGM I stood down as Manager after the Board and I went through a process to find someone to join us in the organisation and take over the role. I want to thank the Board for being so supportive of my desire to reduce my hours here in order to focus on a couple of the projects that need some more time and effort to really take off. We're pleased to have had Tim join us as our new Manager, and I look forward to seeing how he grows and develops the organisation.

Mainly, though, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the whole sector for how you have supported Rerenga Awa and me. This sector is such a pleasure to work in and alongside, and every day I'm proud of the contribution that we together make to our communities.

Aroha mai, aroha atu,

Penny

Trainings and Events Overview

April 2020 - March 2021

61
Attendees

CODE OF ETHICS

- 30 attendees October 2020 at Rehua Marae
- 31 attendees March 2021 at Tuahiwi Marae

1186
Attendees

TRAININGS

- Online Trainings = 995 Attendees
- In-Person = 191 Attendees
- Most attended training = 'Content to Engage with Young People Online' facilitated by Christian Gallen, 84 attendees

254
Attendees

NETWORK EVENTS

- 12 Network Events including Cannabis Panel with CAYAD, Rerenga Awa Identity Launch and Youth Voice Canterbury Youth Connects

4.3/5

Average satisfaction rating of
trainings

Acknowledgements

Rerenga Awa | Canterbury Youth Workers Collective would like to thank all of our amazing supporters and funders. Without them we would not be able to support our sector.

Our Funders

- Christchurch City Council
- Pub Charity Ltd.
- Wayne Francis Charitable Trust
- Community Organisation Grants Scheme
- The Lion Foundation
- NZ Lottery Grants Board
- Rātā Foundation
- Department of Internal Affairs
- Youth Worker Training Scheme
- Te Puni Kōkiri
- MSD Community Capability and Resiliency Fund

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the Canterbury Youth Sector.

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