

Date: Thursday 31 March 2016
Time: 9:30am
Meeting Room: Reception Lounge
Venue: Auckland Town Hall
301-305 Queen Street
Auckland

Governing Body

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
5.1	Acknowledgements	
A.	31 March 2016 - Item 5.1 - Acknowledgements	3
B.	31 March 2016 - Item 5.1 - Auckland Council's Group achievements - March 2016	7



Auckland Acknowledgements March 2016

Dr Ranganui Walker

When I was told of Dr Ranganui Walker's passing I immediately remembered him as learned, outspoken and passionate – a man who made a huge contribution to the shaping of this nation's destiny.

Born in 1932 into a farming family in the Bay of Plenty, Ranganui came to Auckland for his education at St Peter's Māori College, Auckland Teachers' Training College and the University of Auckland.

He started his career as a primary school teacher and was a member of Māori activist group Ngā Tamotoa. He was the secretary of the Auckland District Māori Council from 1969 to 1973 and its Chair from 1974 to 1990.

Ranganui eventually became the Professor and Head of Māori Studies at the University of Auckland and in 2003 he became a member of the Waitangi Tribunal.

In 2007, Ranganui was awarded the Te Tohu o te Maramatanga research excellence award, Ngā Pae o te Maramatanga (CORE) University of Auckland and just two years later, in 2009, he received a Prime Minister's Literary Award.

His books were prolific, with titles including Perceptions and Attitudes of the New Generation of Maris to Pakeha Domination (1981), the Meaning of Biculturalism (1986), Ka Whawhai Tonu Matou / Struggle Without End (1990), Liberating Māori from Educational Subjection (1991) and He Tipua The Life and Times of Sir Āpiranga Ngata (2001). The latter was written in the same year he was made a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

A leader in many of the debates and developments of Māori, Ranganui was also a commentator and his columns in the Listener ran for nearly 20 years.

Former Prime Minister Helen Clark described Ranganui as one of New Zealand's finest people. He was kind, generous, warm, caring and outspoken all at the same time. In short, he was a guiding figure for Māori and the nation.

Ranganui is survived by his wife Deirdre and their children. He died at the age of 83, the day before his 84th birthday.

This country is not the same without him.

Auckland
Transport
Watercare

Regional
Facilities Auckland
Waterfront
Auckland

Auckland
Council Property
Auckland Council
Investments

Auckland
Tourism, Events and
Economic Development
Auckland
Council



Harry O'Rourke

Harry O'Rourke was one of New Zealand's longest serving local government officers. He began his career as a Committee Secretary with the Mt Roskill Borough Council in 1967. He joined Waitemata County Council as a Planning Committee Secretary and rose to become the City Secretary of Waitematā City Council in 1979 and later Town Clerk/Chief Executive Office until amalgamation in 1989. At that time Harry joined the new Waitakere City Council as General Manager – Finance and Administration.

He became the Chief Executive Office in March 2001 and initiated the building of Waitakere Central and the Ratanui St complex, which included a new central library, car park building and Unitec extensions. The library was reportedly a world first, a joint venture between a local authority and a tertiary institution to share library facilities. Harry also had the Massey, Glen Eden and New Lynn libraries to his credit and was a main initiator of the New Lynn rail undergrounding project.

Harry was awarded the New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers' highest honour, the Distinguished Management Award in 2007 during his time at Waitakere City. At the time only seven people had been presented with the award. Harry was recognised in the same year at the society's conference in Wellington – for 40 years of outstanding service to the sector. In receiving the award Harry predictably gave the credit for his achievements to the people he had worked with. "I have always believed people who work for Local Government go to work to make a positive difference in people's lives and that is a very worthwhile way to spend your own life," he said. Harry retired in March 2008, after 36 years with Waitakere city Council, six of them as Chief Executive Officer.

In addition to his administrative duties, Harry was a senior national figure in the Civil Defence organisation and involved with Sea Rescue and a number of statutory and other bodies.

Harry was a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for outstanding contribution to New Zealand in various areas, including judo. He was a Life Member and Honorary Past President of New Zealand Judo and was also President of the Commonwealth Judo Association.

During his years with these organisations, Harry received many medals and diplomas for his service and he was also very active on the mat. He was a Black Belt, 6th Dan and literally coached hundreds and hundreds of young enthusiasts. It was through Harry's efforts that judo was included for the first time as one of the ten official sports at the 1990 Commonwealth Games. In 2003, he was presented with the prestigious International Judo Federation Silver Medal of Merit for Services to national and International judo, in Osaka, Japan at the World Championships.

Harry will be sadly missed by his family, friends and his many judo and local government colleagues .

Tahuna Minhinnik

I was very sorry to hear of the passing of Tahuna Minhinnik of Waikuu - a man who was most definitely one of life's colourful characters.

A skilled Treaty negotiator, Tahuna was a force to be reckoned with and had a wide range of skills and talents. He is attributed with starting the first marae-based health centre scheme and was a stalwart for Ngāti Te Ata in terms of promoting the iwi's aspirations and objectives.

In the death notice his people said Tahuna gifted them with the power of thoughts, determination and the strength of mind to protect the iwi of Ngāti Te Ata with pride.

A high profile property developer, Tahuna joined Housing Minister Nick Smith and me when we jointly announced developments at Drury and Glenbrook. The developments at the southwestern coast brought the total number of Special Housing Areas in Auckland to 86, with a combined potential yield of up to 45,000 new homes. At the media conference Tahuna said the Glenbrook SHA was strategically positioned just minutes away from the Glenbrook Steel Mill which employed 2,000 workers and needed to attract people to the area. Tahuna was instrumental in championing the SHA because it supported his iwi and its commercial aspirations. His company Kahawai Point Ltd was a key player and he enjoyed close and effective relationships with other developers in the Ngā Te Ata area of interest.

The very proud son of Dame Nganeko Minhinnik, Tahuna was part of the negotiation team of Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau and was involved with achieving a smooth and effortless transition of the management of Tamaki Makaurau's maunga from council to the Maunga Authority. A environmentalist like his mother, Tahuna cared deeply for his surroundings and was part of the group which worked successfully to improve the water quality of the Manukau Harbour.

A gym owner who promoted healthy lifestyles, Tahuna produced the Maraerobics children's aerobics television programme from 1997 to 2004 and acted as a 'supplementary golfer' in the 2002 movie The Price of Milk.

Survived by his wife Lisa and their children Atea, Ngaiwi and Brian Kahukoka, his son Te Ahu Raumati and mokopuna Marty Rowan, Jadey and Christie-Jay Raumnati, Tahuna will be sadly missed but well remembered for his contribution to many lives and to Tāmaki Makaurau.

Martin Crowe

As I said on my Facebook page when he passed, Martin had had a great innings but he died too young.

Born in the west (Henderson) Martin came from a family of cricketers and had actor Russell Crowe as a cousin. He joined the Cornwall Cricket Club at a young age and maintained a lifelong connection. At Auckland Grammar School he was deputy head boy in his final year and captained the school's cricket team.

Martin's first-class debut was in January 1980 playing for Auckland against Canterbury. He was just 17. He scored 51 runs in his first innings, his team's highest score. Named New Zealand's Young Cricketer of the Year, Martin was given the chance to spend six months on the ground staff of Lord's which he took up, and at the same time played for the Marylebone Cricket Club. His maiden first-class century was scored in the 1981-82 New Zealand domestic season and then he switched to Central Districts, a career limited by his international duties.

Martin's highest score for the team (and in all New Zealand domestic cricket) was 242 against Otago in January 1990 after which he was appointed captain of New Zealand for a tour of Pakistan later that year. After that it was the Sri Lankan tour and he set a new record for the highest score by a New Zealander – at the crease for 523 balls and more than ten hours, scoring 29 fours and three sixes.

At the 1992 World Cup, Martin finished as the tournament's leading run-scorer. His last series as captain of New Zealand came when Australia toured in 1993. He had struggled with injury but returned as captain for one final match in November that year – the first game of a series against Australia.

In total, Martin captained New Zealand in sixteen tests and was lauded for his style and grace. At the time of his retirement, only Sir Richard Hadlee had played more tests for New Zealand.

In 1992, he was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to cricket and was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame in February last year.

Sadly, Martin was diagnosed with lymphoma at the end of 2012, and while in June 2013, he was diagnosed as cancer free he decided to cut his ties with cricket. The lymphoma returned in 2014, he fulfilled his wish to see the 2015 Cricket World Cup and died on March 3, 2016.

As The Guardian said by way of a eulogy, he was not just one of New Zealand's greatest ever cricketers, but one of the most elegant batsmen the world has yet seen. Cricket, New Zealand and the world will certainly miss Martin Crowe and his illustrious performances.



Auckland Achievements

March 2016

Auckland recognised in Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2016

Auckland has been recognised with a Special Mention in the prestigious Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2016.

The judging jury decided to recognise Auckland for "overcoming its planning challenges faced over the past 20 years, notably through a highly integrated and innovative governance model".

Colombian city Medellin wins the World City Prize and Sydney, Toronto and Vienna received a Special Mention along with Auckland.

Auckland shortlisted for Ultimate Sports City Award

Auckland has been shortlisted in the top 10 SportBusiness Ultimate Sports Cities Awards, reinforcing its global reputation for hosting international sporting events.

Auckland was listed alongside other great international sporting cities including Calgary, Copenhagen, Glasgow, London, Los Angeles, Manchester, Melbourne, New York and Tokyo.

The short list for the biennial awards is selected from a long list of 30 and an initial selection of 150 cities.

Government helps Auckland Council with emergency housing

The government has announced \$2 million worth of new emergency housing in Auckland. Specialist provider Emerge Aotearoa will provide 30 places for individuals or families, for a stay of up to 12 weeks, housing at least an extra 120 people each year.

This boost will ensure more Aucklanders get the help they need – not just housing, but also access to other social support services.

Summer concerts a \$16.8m boost to Auckland's economy

Regional Facilities Auckland (RFA) has wrapped up a bumper summer concert season, boosting Auckland's economy by \$16.8 million.

More than 171,000 fans enjoyed a sold-out summer line-up which included Fleetwood Mac, Ed Sheeran, rock band AC/DC and the Taste of Auckland food and wine festival at Western Springs Stadium, and Our:House at Mt Smart Stadium. The results show that Auckland is a major player when it comes to world-class entertainment.

The Ed Sheeran and Fleetwood Mac concerts at Mt Smart Stadium generated 80,030 visitor nights in total.

Polyfest attracts 10,000 students

The 41st Polyfest festival at the Manukau Sports Bowl saw nearly 10,000 students from schools all over Auckland perform.

Polyfest is the Auckland secondary schools' Māori and Pacific Islands cultural festival celebrating the diverse culture that makes up our city. It is the largest festival of its kind in the world. The festival gets bigger each year, drawing thousands of participants in hundreds of groups from more than 60 schools, and hundreds of thousands of spectators.

Also this month, one of Auckland's longest-standing and best-loved annual festivals, Pasifika returned to Western Springs for two days.

Pest control operation a major victory for the endangered kōkako

Auckland Council's biggest ever pest control operation has chalked up a major victory for the endangered kōkako with dozens of new chicks hatching in the Hunua Ranges this summer.

Pest animals are at an all-time low, with rat and possum densities significantly reduced across the operational area. There have been 13 kōkako chicks fledging from six monitored pairs so far and some of these pairs are already nesting again. With this high success rate among the six monitored pairs, there could be more than 100 fledgings from the 55 pairs in the managed area. Hochstetter's frogs are still present and vegetation is recovering.

Consultation starts on transport in west

Six weeks of public consultation on potential transport solutions for future urban growth areas in north-west, north and south Auckland has taken place.

The engagement focused on what transport priorities should be and a range of potential projects, including a north western busway, new park and rides, an alternative corridor parallel to State Highway 16 through Kumeu/Huapai, extended commuter rail services, and state highway improvements. Such projects would support large numbers of new houses in north-west Auckland.

Sculpture in the Gardens popular

More than 320,000 people visited Sculpture in the Gardens this summer and were delighted by the array of outstanding artworks, free activities and gorgeous gardens.

The exhibition closed with a festive celebration and the announcement of the Friends of Auckland Botanic Gardens People's Choice Award, won by sculptor John Ferguson for botanically inspired sculpture, Khulu. The next exhibition is already being planned for the summer of 2017/18.

Sculpture in the Gardens is organised by the Friends of the Auckland Botanic Gardens, the Auckland Botanic Gardens and Auckland Council with support from the Manurewa Local Board and many valued sponsors and volunteers.

New recycling bins next step to get waste sorted

Auckland's goal to have consistent waste services for households across the region has come a step closer, with the roll-out of new recycling bins in the north and west.

More than 210,000 households in legacy Rodney, North Shore and Waitakere are receiving new 240L bins between 4 April and 30 June, bringing residents in these areas in line with most other Auckland households, which already have 240L bins. The first service using the new bins will be on 1 July.