

I had the privilege of attending the Local Government New Zealand Conference in 2018. The Howick Local Board nominated me to attend. The conference was of high value to me as an elected member. The content of the seminars and the speakers were very inspiring and useful.

Enclosed is my 2018 LGNZ Conference report with some highlights and learnings I gained.

Sam Johnson - social entrepreneur
Student army

Local government can:

- Give people opportunities to help others, give people permission to make a difference, highlight common interests and local interests, make us aware that there is always someone looking for help and someone looking for work, and create new types of work for people in our community (find a need and fill it)
- **Other Thoughts:** Trust has fundamentally moved in society. It's gone from local to institutional and then to technology. Recommended book, The Patient will see you now. "We are totally leading by our periphery vision." (Example - people walking while looking at their cell phones. The future isn't tomorrow, it's all the little decisions we make today.)
- Focus on the reason "why", work out your why of projects, strategise how, realise the what.



Speakers:

- Joanna Norris - Chief executive Christchurch NZ Building a strong community-
 - Arihiha Bennett – CE Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu "The richness of the local history is important."
 - Justin Watson - Chief aeronautical/commercial Officer, Chch airport. A successful airport is important. The Chch airport has a 50:1 economic multiplier, Every \$1, results in 50 to the local community.
 - Erika Austin- Christchurch is a prototype city, transitional city, learning city
 - **Justin Tualamali - Chair Pacific youth leadership transformation Council.**
 - "Council doesn't need to do all the work to develop community, Community owns the value in everything."
 - **What do we do for young people? Figure out what kind of young people we have. Pour out resourcing to our young people.**
 - **Adaptive Leadership for youth to be part of community development of the future.**
 - **Embrace diversity, provide opportunity, resist the comfortable space of the same.**
 - **Michael Dunlop - director Acumen Republic. Building strong local economy.**
 - **There is a belief that centralised and standardised ways of doing things, determined by central government, is the best approach. However, central gov.has taken the role of local gov. away.**
 - **Local government is largely the compliance arm of Central government.**
 - **Communities don't have real influence over local government. Municipalities should be close to and connected to communities. The benefits of Economic growth should come back to the local community.**
 - Te Maire tau- Ngai Tahu research centre
 - Inspiring Maori connections to grow thriving, prosperous communities.
 - Rachel Reese - Mayor of Nelson
 - Johnson Cox - Working together to tackle 3 waters infrastructure challenges facing NZ
- Seminar: Best practice: building excellence in locally delivered infrastructure and services.
- Produces, Quality of services continuous improvement, Development performance measures, Assessment, Ratings awarded, Improve performance
 - David Ayers - Mayor Waimakariri District Council: "Each councillor has a portfolio that is connected to a committee. Each councillor has a chance to chair a committee each term. Unity in council promotes unity in the community."
- Jim Palmer Chief executive Waimakariri: Relationships - need good relationships with staff, officers, and other members to be effective. You are watched every minute of the day, you need to role model, keeping**

people informed (staff gives bullet point update to members fortnightly on how projects are going and issues.) The greater the trust and confidence the more effective you will be.

Clarity of purpose - to make botany the best place it can be and to be connected with the community.

Consistency is very important. Treat people with respect, other people's point of view is and can be legitimate and people deserve respect and to be heard.

- Best practice of financial management.
 - o understand your budgets management, vision, and objectives.
 - o Need good data to feed into that budget. Need to take survey about satisfaction from the community every year. Find out where you are over providing or under providing.
 - o Infrastructure strategy - what are the services you are already providing?
- Financial controls (risk management processes). Have clear delegation and clear internal reporting
 - o Value (performance) management. Make sure you know how you are achieving your outcomes and how your financial management is lining up. Have a project management process in place.
 - What are your risks? How is the budget going?

Core business, Alignment of: Vision, mission, values, strategies, LTP, infrastructure plan.

Business case development: investment Logic Mapping

Mike's thoughts "you have to know where you are at before you can figure out where you are going." Example – Small sites programme in Flat bush: engaged an experienced operator as a consultant to work with non-compliant operators to reach acceptable level of understanding and implementation of requirements under health and liquor legislation. Data gained informed next steps.

Communication: How do we make sure the engagement and communication strategy is aligned with council vision etc.

- o Clear and unified vision and message
- o Regular and consistent communication.
- o Tell story.
- o Utilizing professional communication assistance.

Speaker: Deidre Otene - Te Kotahitanga e mahi kaha Trust

- Encourage local voices, not expected voices, to be able to speak up for change and influence.
- The state of our land is reflective of the state of our people.
- Being in alignment with others, working alongside others rather than trying to come on and miraculously change the world.
- Mobile innovation space?
- I-moko
- **Community Development requires us to return back to serve at a level that is needed the most.**
- Go local go deep, to have a greater impact. We have to take our community with us as we look to improve health and well-being. The local communities have the answers, we must help them identify their own answers.

Seminar: empowering community groups

- Harnessing localism and empowering communities to succeed
- Akina- social enterprise - business with a heart
 - o Without access to market for us to trade, social enterprise cannot exist and engage in Sector development, capacity building, and facilitating finance.
- **Partnership with local government, unbundle some of our local contracts for social enterprise business.** Interesting idea to consider.

Margaret Jeffries

- Project lyttleton, The soul of sustainable community. Appreciative inquiry's- look at what is going well first, rather than focussing primarily on what is going wrong. Interesting idea, "Time bank" people trading in time rather than money. People in the community have skills. Local government need to extend some trust to the community groups.
- Selwyn youth council
 - o Youth council discretionary fund
 - o "What do YOUth think" tour. Going to where the young people are to survey them and get their point of view rather than the typical hearing style engagement.
 - o Selwyn Link trial bus service was launched (a two day trial).