

The South Taranaki District is now at COVID-19 Alert Level 2. Find out more at www.covid19.govt.nz

Leaders challenge residents to get Taranaki over 90% fully vaccinated

Our Region's leaders are urging Taranaki residents to get vaccinated to protect ourselves, our families and our health care workers.

The Taranaki Mayoral Forum is made up of South Taranaki Mayor Phil Nixon, Stratford Mayor Neil Volzke, New Plymouth Mayor Neil Holdom and Taranaki Regional Council Chair David MacLeod.

Taranaki Mayoral Forum Chair Phil Nixon says the Forum welcomes the news that 75% of eligible people within Taranaki have had their first COVID vaccine but is putting out the challenge for the Region to become 90% fully vaccinated.

Mayor Nixon says the Forum is supporting the Taranaki District Health Board through the pandemic as part of its commitment to the wellbeing of Taranaki people and understands how critical it is to achieve more than a 90% vaccination rate to avoid the rationing of healthcare services that is occurring internationally, especially given the Prime Minister's acknowledgement yesterday that no country in the world has been able to stamp out Delta.

"If we can get over 90% vaccinated, we will take the pressure off our



health workers who have been working extremely hard to support all New Zealanders since COVID-19 first arrived in the country 18 months ago. We have heard how concerned our medical professionals are about COVID-19 and we have to respond by stepping up, getting vaccinated and playing our part," he says.

"COVID-19's spread south to Waikato is an indication that it was only a matter of time before it arrives in Taranaki. We are urging residents to take advantage of Super Saturday and visit one of the more than 30 places available around the Maunga to get vaccinated."

Mayor Nixon also acknowledges the significant contribution Iwi Health providers across the Region are playing in getting the vaccination rates up, particularly for Māori.

Mayor Nixon says the Mayoral Forum thanks Police for patrolling the northern boundary at Mōkau to ensure compliance with Level 3 travel restrictions as it provided more time to increase the vaccination rate before Delta's arrival.

"Our Police have stepped up to help protect Taranaki. It is clear COVID is likely to come in from the north and the longer we can keep it out, the lower the health impacts will be on our people."

Upcoming meetings

Policy and Strategy Committee

Monday 18 October, 1pm
Camberwell Lounge,
TSB Hub, Camberwell Road,
Hāwera

Eltham Drainage Committee

Wednesday 27 October,
10am
Taumata Recreation Centre,
Preston Street, Eltham

Ordinary Council

Monday 1 November, 7pm
Venue to be advised

Audit and Risk Committee

Wednesday 3 November,
11am
Venue to be advised

Funds allocated to District's Community Organisations

Over \$220,000 has been allocated to 20 community organisations from the South Taranaki District Council's Community Initiative Fund at its deliberation meeting held on Monday 26 September.

The largest grant was allocated to Rotokare Scenic Reserve which received \$60,000 each year for the next three years, followed by the Ōpunakē Sport and Recreation Trust

(Sandford Events Centre) which received an additional \$35,000 each year on top of the \$40,000 per annum they are already granted, followed by the Egmont A&P Association (\$20,000).

South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon says it wasn't an easy task considering over \$1.2 million had been requested from 45 different groups throughout Taranaki and some

difficult calls had to be made.

"All the applicants contribute positively to their communities in some way and are deserving of support. However, the reality is that we have a limited amount of funds available, so allocations were given to organisations whose work aligned closely with the priorities we outlined in our 2021-31 Long Term Plan," Mayor Nixon.

Three year grants

Citizens Advice Bureau (\$2,000), Egmont Showgrounds (\$20,000), EnviroSchools Taranaki (\$10,000), Everybody's Theatre (\$12,000), Menzshed Hāwera (\$5,000), Ōpunakē Beach Carnival (\$6,000), Ōpunakē Sport and Recreation Trust (\$35,000), Paepae in the Park (\$10,000), South Taranaki Neighbourhood Support (\$5,000) and Waverley Community Patrol (\$5,000).

Other Council Community Annual Grants

Lysaght-Watt Gallery (\$15,000), Ōpunakē Community Baths (\$52,606), Ōpunakē Sport and Recreational Trust (\$40,000), Ōpunakē Surf Lifesaving Club (\$11,500), Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust (\$60,000), Sport Taranaki (\$37,660), Surf Lifesaving NZ (\$30,323) and Waverley Cemetery Board (\$20,000).

One-off Grants

Blue Light Te Ara Tika (\$5,000), Hāwera Brass Ltd (\$16,521), Hāwera Cinema Trust (\$40,000), Hāwera Lawn Tennis and Squash Raquet Club (\$10,000), Ōpunakē Loop Trail Trust (\$6,000), Ōpunakē Players Inc (\$6,000), Park Croquet Club (\$5,364), Taranaki Garden Trust (\$5,000), The Eltham Village Gallery (\$7,000) and Waverley A&P Association (\$6,714).

Virtual Literary Awards Evening

The Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards has been moved to an entirely virtual ceremony.

Due to the uncertainty around COVID-19 levels, the decision was made to move the Awards ceremony online. This will have a different look and feel to previous years however we hope this won't deter finalists and their families from tuning in when the Awards ceremony is made live for viewing.

"We are very excited to be able to offer a recorded discussion with judges

announcing the winners," says South Taranaki District Council Community Outreach Librarian, Katherine Bosworth. "We are grateful to the Lysaght-Watt Trust for their generous support of the Awards and thank them for their time again this year."

The Awards ceremony will be loaded to the LibraryPlus Facebook at 7pm on Thursday 21 October.

All winners will be notified on the morning of Friday 22 October.

Permaculture Workshop

South Taranaki District Council and EnviroSchools Taranaki are proud to bring you this workshop about 'Permaculture - a look at Food Forest Systems'. Being held at Hollards Gardens on Saturday 23 October from 10am - 12noon. \$10 per person payable on the day. Please register by visiting the EnviroSchools Facebook page.

