

He karere tā te Kaunihera ō Taranaki ki te Tonga News from the South Taranaki District Council

Nominations open for By-Elections

TU MAI STAND

Nominations open today for candidates interested in standing in Te Hāwera Ward and Pātea Community Board By-elections. South Taranaki Electoral Officer, Becky Wolland says the By-elections need to be held to fill the vacant Te Hāwera general ward Councillor and Pātea Community Board positions. Nomination forms can be collected from the Hāwera Administration Building, Pātea LibraryPlus or online at *www.southtaranaki.com/vote2022*. Completed nomination forms must be returned before 12noon on Thursday 22 December 2022. Voting in the Te Hāwera and

Pātea wards opens on Thursday 26 January and closes on noon Friday 17 February 2023.

If you are interested in standing for either of these positions, you can contact the Electoral Officer Becky Wolland on 0800 111 323 if you have any questions.

How to become a candidate

- Complete and submit a nomination form before Thursday
 22 December
- Get two people to nominate you they must be over 18 and enrolled to vote in the area you wish to be a candidate
- Pay a nomination deposit of \$200 you may get a refund, depending on how many votes you receive
- Learn about how the Council works and your roles and responsibilities if you are elected

www.southtaranaki.com/vote2022

New Council CE announced



Fiona Aitken has been appointed the new chief executive at the South Taranaki District Council (STDC) says South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon.

"I'm extremely pleased to be able to announce the appointment of Fiona Aitken to the position of chief executive for the Council," says Mayor Nixon. "Fiona is a highly experienced leader with some 30 years in the local government sector, and her

appointment comes after a rigorous application process where the standard of applicants was extremely high."

Mayor Nixon says Fiona has been the acting chief executive

since the departure of Waid Crockett in October, having been on the Council's senior leadership team since 2010, with the last four years as group manager of community and infrastructure services

"It's great that we have the depth of talent at the Council which enables us to make such appointments. Fiona has a strong reputation of working with people and building effective relationships at all levels and has done an excellent job of leading the Council's largest group during a period of uncertainty and change. The organisation has made a lot of progress over the last five years and Fiona will ensure that progress continues," he says

"I feel privileged to be able to lead an organisation I have been part of for 30 years and I am excited about the opportunity to work with the team to continue to make our communities great places to live, work and play," says Fiona.

A Pōwhiri to officially welcome Fiona to her new position will be held in early December.

Summer Blast Programme at South Taranaki LibraryPlus

Summer Blast, the summer holiday programme run by South Taranaki District Libraries, is back again this year with an exciting and dynamic way of encouraging children's learning.

Not limited to just reading, the programme inspires children to get out into nature, explore their creativity, and discover new things.

South Taranaki District Libraries Community

Outreach Librarian, Layne Winiata, says the Summer Blast programme is an opportunity for children to beat the summer holiday slump by keeping busy in their own homes and communities.

"Over the six-week summer holidays, Summer Blast allows



children aged 5-12 years old to get involved with their local library, choose from a fun set of challenges and activities that interest them, all while going in the draw to win some fantastic prizes," says Layne.

"The programme covers a multitude of literacies, including visual and digital literacy – not only reading and writing. While libraries are traditionally places you go to find knowledge, they have become hubs

for finding, creating and using knowledge. Summer Blast aims to empower children to find, use and create knowledge in meaningful ways."

Registrations for Summer Blast open from 5 December at your local LibraryPlus or online **www.southtaranaki.com/summerblast**

Upcoming Meetings

Risk and Assurance Committee Wednesday 30 November, 11am

Extraordinary Environment and Hearings Committee

Wednesday 7 December, 4pm

Ordinary Council Meeting Monday 12 December, 4pm

Unless mentioned, meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion St, Hāwera

Rates Reminder

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the second instalment of rates for 2022/2023 without incurring a penalty is Wednesday 30 November 2022

Outdoor pool season starts on Saturday!



It's that time again – the 50m outdoor pool at the Hāwera Aquatic Centre will be open from Saturday 26 November. And not too long to wait before our free Community Summer Pools open their doors on Monday 12 December.

Bring on Summer!

Community Clean Ups

We all have a role to play in keeping our communities clean and waste free. Community Clean Ups are a great opportunity to get your friends, family, school, business or local community group together and make a positive impact in South Taranaki.

So get your groups together, fill out the registration form and let's Clean Up South Taranaki and New Zealand!

Go to www.southtaranaki.com/community-clean-ups to register and learn more about community clean ups.

Don't forget to register two weeks prior to your clean up date.

New NZ citizens welcomed

Congratulations to our new NZ Citizens, who officially received their citizenship last Thursday. This was our first citizenship ceremony that we've been able to have since March 2021.

