

**Media release (*Kapiti Observer*)****29 May 2008****Non-elected appointments to KCDC standing committees not the best way forward**

The Kapiti Chamber of Commerce wishes to give support to Councillor Molineux's stance against the appointment of Maori to non-elected positions, with voting rights, on KCDC standing committees. (*Kapiti Observer*, 29 May 2008)

A core value of being a member of a democratically appointed system of governance is the principle of one person, one vote. As Councillor Molineux points out, we get the chance to exercise this choice for our community through local body elections every three years.

To move away from this principle is undemocratic and gives rise to a whole range of emotions and fear-mongering. Our community needs to stick with the basics; representation is by those elected by all, to represent. Some weeks ago, Councillor Jack used the Chamber of Commerce as an example of a group he did not see as desirable as having around the Council table! This statement has been responded to separately but his point is well-noted and is dealt with by our current system of electing individuals to represent our community.

However, if the views of any group are considered to be 'under represented' then again, we agree with Councillor Molineux's approach – address this directly.

The proportion of those eligible to vote in local body elections who actually exercise their vote is pathetic. It would seem the selection of postal voting as the most effective means, along with greater understanding of the single transferrable vote option, (chosen for use in Kapiti in the last election) need far greater public awareness and knowledge.

If some groups are perceived to require greater representation in local government, then let this be by representation on Council from the public vote. Greater awareness and knowledge of the local body electoral system should inevitably lead to a greater desire to participate.

Let's focus on having a well-informed, interested population, keen to involve itself in our system of local government. So many fought so hard to gain universal suffrage that before we start tinkering, we should see how we can get wider representation in what to date appears to be, the most equitable system of governance currently available.

Wendy Huston

Chair

Kapiti Chamber of Commerce

## AGM & BA5

As part of the Chamber Annual General Meeting held on Monday 1 November 2005, we held our first ever BA5 event (Business After 5 event).

This was hosted by Kapiti Pak 'N' Save. Co-owners Glen Taylor and Peter Anderson discussed the aspects of running a substantial business with a large number of employees. They each spoke about their individual backgrounds and how they came to acquire Kapiti Pak 'N' Save, and went on to talk about the running of a large business, the positives, challenges and solutions to the problems they have encountered.

They highlighted the no advertising policy, the logic behind not stocking all brands of a product and the marketing strategies of their suppliers.

Glen and Peter also mentioned future plans for Pak 'N' Save, which include building a petrol station on the vacant land adjacent to Rimu Road.

The Chamber would like to thank Pak 'N' Save for a very positive event and those members who attended. We understand that Pak 'N' Save found it a worthwhile event to reach out to their customers.

If you would like to hold a BA5 for your business please contact Wilson Lattey on 04 293 3252 or [wilson@otaihanga.co.nz](mailto:wilson@otaihanga.co.nz).

About 50 people attended the AGM and BA5. During the AGM part of the meeting, Mike Olsen reviewed our achievements over the past year, and a new management committee was appointed. This includes four new members Carol Churches, Wendy Huston, Tim Beere and Hans Kopruch. Leasa Carylton, John Mills and David Hickman have all stepped down from the committee, and we want to thank them all for the work they have put into making our first full year such a success.

## BA5 with Genesis Energy

**Meeting New Zealand's Growth**  
**Genesis Chief Executive Murray Jackson**

**Wednesday 8th March 2006, 5.30 pm**

**Lindale Lodge**

**Members \$5**

**Non-members \$10**

**(entry includes drinks and nibbles)**

Genesis Energy is of the firm belief that the future of New Zealand's electricity infrastructure requires serious investment in both new generation and transmission. The company believes there is a role to play for all current New Zealand generation types — wind, hydro, geothermal and thermal — and has substantially invested in a number of large-scale projects to ensure security of electricity supply for the country.

Genesis Energy Chief Executive, Murray Jackson, will be speaking about his company's significant investments in generation development, such as the \$520 million e3p project in Huntly, and of the company's joint venture arrangements into oil and gas development in the Taranaki region.

RSVP: Wilson Lattey before Monday 6th March, 04 293 3252 or [wilson@otaihanga.co.nz](mailto:wilson@otaihanga.co.nz)

## How's Business?

The Kapiti Coast Chamber of Commerce wants to hear your business views on the following topics:

1. What are your personal experiences of the Resource Management Act?
2. Tell us your views on the Western Link Road.
3. What are your views on the proposed Paraparaumu Town Centre?

Please send your response to: [wilson@otaihanga.co.nz](mailto:wilson@otaihanga.co.nz)

## Tourism Update

It has been an exciting start for Kapiti's events with the success of the Waikanae Garden Trail, Organic Festival, AP&I Show and the Medieval Market. We have the Nga Manu Concert to look forward to next month. These events encourage people to visit Kapiti and to benefit the businesses that are here.

Research released in February by the Ministry of Tourism shows that in the year to March 2005 spending by domestic travellers fell by 9.5 per cent to \$7 billion, a reduction of \$733 million. After hosting a meeting of industry representatives in December, the Tourism Industry Association is currently preparing a paper to present to the Government, which looks at the reasons and issues behind the downturn in domestic tourism. Last year the Government signalled it would address the issue as a priority in the new term.

Tourism employers looking for new staff are being invited to take part in the Opportunities New Zealand Expos in London. If you are interested in recruiting workers from Britain, visit these websites for more information: [www.expo-newzealand.com/exhibit/london/stats.php](http://www.expo-newzealand.com/exhibit/london/stats.php) and [www.expo-newzealand.com/exhibit/london](http://www.expo-newzealand.com/exhibit/london)

Tourism in Kapiti is establishing an exciting identity, with closer working relationships, particularly with Wellington, from which the Kapiti Coast will certainly benefit. We have the Classic Car Festival in November, which will be a national event. With Wellington hosting the Golden Oldies Rugby Tournament, Kapiti will ensure that we are prepared to piggy back on visitor arrivals and bring these visitors to the Coast. Our Kapiti/Horowhenua Tourism Manager, Paul Singh, is being proactive and investigating the feasibility of inclusive packages on the Kapiti Coast for inbound visitors to New Zealand. We support Paul with his project, as we can all benefit from such a venture.

## Study for free at Whitireia Polytechnic

Whitireia Polytechnic is offering the NZIM Certificate in Management for free in 2006 at its Kapiti and Porirua campuses. The timetable has been designed with classes first thing in the morning, and then again in the late afternoon or early evening.

It's a six month programme, and Whitireia will repeat it later in the year to provide maximum flexibility for people in work.

This is an introductory course, and the subjects include: marketing, accounting, human resource management, computing, management, law, information management and workplace communications.

For more information, contact [a.vickerman@whitireia.ac.nz](mailto:a.vickerman@whitireia.ac.nz) or phone 237 3103 extn. 3769.

## Seminars and Courses

All members of the Kapiti Chamber are entitled to attend seminars and events organised by the Wellington Chamber. We also get the same discounts as Wellington members. You can also attend courses and seminars organised by Enterprise Coast.

### Wellington Chamber Events

Coming up in the next month is a full-day seminar 'Sell yourself and your business' on the 23rd of March. There is also a BA5 hosted by Kirk Motors, with guest speaker the entertainer Frankie Stevens, on Tuesday the 28th February.

More information and registration forms are on the Wellington Chamber's website at <http://www.wgtn-chamber.co.nz/main.php?page=144>. You can also register online at the What's On Events Shop on <http://www.wgtn-chamber.co.nz/>, email the Events Team on [registrations@wgtn-chamber.co.nz](mailto:registrations@wgtn-chamber.co.nz), or phone them on 04 914-6500.

### Enterprise Coast

During March Enterprise Coast is offering 'Your Business Story — 4 module course for new businesses'.

This series of courses is designed for businesses that have been operating for less than 12 months. They are structured to include important areas and issues that occur during the development phase of your business.

Sessions and workshops cover business strategy, marketing, business modelling and business action plans.

The course starts on Wednesday 1st March, with subsequent sessions on Thursdays 9th, 16th and 23rd March, from 9.30am to 12.30pm The facilitators are Chris Elphick and Ruth Bruce from the Kinross Group.

To register please contact Maureen McCormack on 06 367 0524 or email her at [m.mccormack@enterprisecoastnz.com](mailto:m.mccormack@enterprisecoastnz.com)

## Member Discounts

There are more than 30 companies offering discounts or free consultations for Chamber of Commerce members. These include Boise, Shell, Hertz, Telecom, Ford and many others.

For instance, if your vehicle costs are substantial, you might find the Shell offer helpful. You can receive up to 6c per litre off the regional price for petrol along with reduced monthly card charges.

Call Shell on the 0800 743 552 to get an application form for your Chamber Shell Card. Make sure you have your Chamber membership number handy as you must quote your membership number to access this discount.

For the full list and the benefits, visit the Wellington Chamber's member discounts page <http://www.wgtn-chamber.co.nz/main.php?page=258>