

Appendix 1: FNT13 Agenda item for WDC

Forum North Trust Current Members

CALVIN GREEN CO-CHAIR

Calvin Green is a local business owner and co-chair of the Forum North Trust.

Calvin has a passion for working with and for Community Development and is honoured to have an opportunity to work on and progress the concept of a New Zealand Unique Performance Centre in Whangarei.

He has a BSc, MSc (University of Auckland, Psychology) and senior management experience at both Government of Ontario Canada and Whangarei District Council and Northland Business Development Trust..

He has started more than 20 Green Field Companies (NZ and International) and is currently Director of PGNZ Ltd, Gifts and Games Online; Florian and Green Ltd : Avocado Orchard (Export and Domestic markets)

Calvin has been a lecturer at the NorthTec School of Business teaching Bachelor of Applied Management: Business Transformation and Change, Marketing and Applied Management.

Community Boards Calvin has served on include: Chair -Whangarei Youth Orchestra, Chair – Tikipunga High School Board, Co-Chair of Forum North Trust and other community groups.

ROS MARTIN CO-CHAIR

Ros Martin has been connected to performing arts in Whangarei for many years both on stage and behind the scenes.

During the late 1980's and early 1990's she served as chair of the Forum North Trust – a role she relished. She is now co – chair of Forum North Trust 2013 and is excited about the opportunities for reviving the vibrant community connections and involvement of the proposed Performing Arts Centre .

Ros is semi – retired and works part – time as a consultant to the Retirement Village industry. She has worked in Education, Marketing, Communications, Fundraising, Events Management and a variety of leadership roles in the Retirement Village sector.

IAN REEVES

Ian was brought up in a Gisborne farming family, with whom he retains close links.

He graduated from Canterbury University in Christchurch with a law degree in 1969, and subsequently travelled and lived overseas for 3½ years, including travelling overland from Cape Town to London. During his travels he used his legal education in Australia and in England.

He settled in Whangarei in 1974, where he continues to live with his wife, Kim Wilkinson. He has two adult sons in Auckland.

His law experience extends over 53 years, and he has recently resigned as a director of Henderson Reeves, solicitors, Whangarei after 39 years.

Ian's community interests have been concentrated on the Arts, with representation on numerous arts organisations since 1976, when he first became active in in the Northland Centre and Arts Foundation Incorporated (NORTAF). He was very involved in the joint venture with the Whangarei City Council to design and build Forum North as a community Cultural Centre, including consultation with prospective user groups at the time to develop a design brief for the architect. He served on the joint working party to design the complex with the architect, with special interest in the design of the Capitaine Bougainville Theatre. For a number of years he subsequently served as a Nortaf representative on the Forum North Trust Board, which administered Forum North with the Council as a Cultural Centre.

With John House in 1997, he revived the Whangarei Community Arts Council, and, after consultation with the Whangarei District Council in 2000, formed the Arts Promotion Trust (now known as Creative Northland). He served on it as trustee for over 6 years and assisted with the legal work for the Trust and the Old Library Limited.

Ian was a trustee on the Northland Events Centre Trust (Semenoff Stadium) as a WDC appointee for four years.

Ian is also a founding trustee of Prosper Northland Trust, which was instrumental in securing the construction of the Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Maori Art Gallery in Whangarei.

He is a founding trustee of the Forum North Trust 2013, which seeks to build an 850-1000 seat theatre at forum North, and reinstate Forum North as a Cultural Centre, rather than the current use as a Civic Centre.

He has at times been involved in local environmental issues as a founding member and lawyer for the Northland Association for Responsible Development (NARD), with a particular interest in water quality in the Whangarei Harbour. NARD was instrumental in requiring the Whangarei District Council to upgrade its sewage treatment plant at Limeburners Creek from primary treatment only to tertiary treatment of sewage.

In his retirement, Ian looks forward to retaining close contact with the Arts community, picking up the guitar again, and continuing his interest in sculpture.

IAN PRITCHARD

Ian is a Senior Advisor for the Ministry of Education providing strategic and innovative support to improve outcomes across the educational sector. Among his roles, he manages traumatic incidents and reviews preventable deaths across Te Tai Tokerau.

His experience within the education sector includes various senior management positions including Head of Arts and teacher of photography and drama.

Ian is passionate about engaging people and connecting people of all ages with meaningful experiences to strengthen the lives of individuals and their communities.

Prior to teaching, Ian trained as a Chef in the RNZAF – catering for HRH's Queen Elizabeth and Prince Charles, various PM's and Heads of State, Billy Joel and even the French agents responsible for the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior.

After returning to Whangarei after his RNZAF service, Ian's interest in singing, photography and a rekindled love for surfing meant he cancelled his plans for overseas adventure and stayed in his hometown.

He began work as a freelance photojournalist and has photographic artworks in private collections throughout NZ, Australia, England and Japan.

After meeting Joan and Rick Kennaway and Waipu's Lachie McLean he became a founding member of Opera North and has enjoyed lead roles in local productions of West Side Story, Les Miserables, World Goes Round, Miss Saigon, Mamma Mia and the 150th Waipu.

His gratitude to all those who have inspired him is now firmly focussed on the success of this project and in helping to provide future generations a nucleus of creative expression that will serve our people and enrich the culture of Whangarei for many years to come.

ANDREA ROSS

Andrea Ross is the Managing Director of People Potential.

She has been involved with the business for over twenty five years. People Potential employs around 100 people and has branches in Whangarei, Kaikohe, Dargaville, Auckland and Hamilton. Andrea is on the Board of ITENZ (Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand) and Entelechy Ltd. Andrea is passionate about business in Northland and believes that a performing arts Centre is integral to our growth.

KAWITI WAETFORD

Raised on the beautiful Tutukaka Coast of Northland New Zealand, Kawiti is now a multi-talented opera singer, performer and public speaker. As an alumnus of Otago University, Kawiti was mentored by Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and has performed with her nationally and internationally.

Kawiti has sung in concert with the NZ Symphony Orchestra, the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and has been honoured to perform with artists such as Dame Kiri, Frederica von Stade, Simon O'Neill and Teddy Tahu Rhodes.

Kawiti graduated with a Masters Degree in Advanced Vocal Studies from the Wales International Academy of Voice, under acclaimed Welsh tenor, Dennis O'Neill, and studied with renowned American vocal pedagogue, Sherman Lowe, in Venice, Italy.

He has an extensive background in New Zealand Maori Performing Arts and as an actor appeared at The Globe Theatre, London, in Shakespeare's "As You Like It".

Kawiti performed for Their Royal Highnesses Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall and Prince Henry of Wales and attended Buckingham Palace to meet Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip.

In 2011 he attended the Solti Te Kanawa Accademia di bel canto where he worked with both Dame Kiri and Sir Thomas Allen. In 2015 he performed the role of the Archangel Michael in Murray Schaffer's Apocalypsis, directed by Lemi Ponifasio as part of the Luminato Festival in Toronto.

Kawiti was a finalist in the New Zealand Lexus Song Quest in 2012 and was awarded the inaugural Dame Kiri Te Kanawa Scholarship, and was the beneficiary of the prestigious Ngarimu VC & Maori Battalion Scholarship.

CHERRY HERMON

A lifelong love of musicals has seen Cherry's musical theatre journey range from the Hollywood heyday movies of the 50's through every decade up to modern-day shows like Rent and the exceptionally brilliant musical Hamilton.

Having family involvement with Whangarei Youth Music for over a decade, Cherry appreciates how communities can nurture and inspire young musicians and the importance of appropriate and accessible venues if youth are to be encouraged into the performing arts within New Zealand. She also appreciates that a modern lyric theatre, capable of fast and affordable turnaround for visiting shows, is long overdue in Whangarei since the demolition of the old Town Hall in the early 1980's.

Cherry is a current business manager, having worked many years as a Radiographer, and has served 4 terms on the Whangarei District Council with an emphasis on Community Development.

GRANT STEVENS (Engineer: Richardson Stevens Engineering Ltd)

Grant moved to Whangarei in 1974 to work as a civil structural engineer and over a working career of more than 40 years helped develop a consulting engineering practice of over 20 professional and technical staff. Following retirement from Richardson Stevens consultants Ltd in 2017, he has continued a strong interest, in Whangarei's built environment and with current building regulations and methods. Since retirement he has started a boutique engineering consultancy, Hapai Structural Geotechnical to maintain his interest in specific engineering areas and further develop technical competency.

Grant's involvement with many major projects around Whangarei including the refinery expansion, Hundertwasser project, commercial building development, seismic investigation and upgrading of many of Whangarei's old buildings, means that he is well qualified to assist the Trust in the procurement of a new theatre and performing arts Centre at Forum North.

Creative & Technical Advisors

HAYDEN TEE

Hayden is an acclaimed performer, makeup artist and recording artist in Theatre, Concert and Cabaret throughout New Zealand, Australia, Asia, the U.K and U.S.A.

Broadway, New York: Javert in Les Miserables

West End, London: Marius in Les Misérables, Javert in Les Miserables, Miss Trunchbull in Matilda.

Australia: Javert in Les Miserables, Cable in South Pacific, Professor Bhaer in Little Women, Thomas Andrews in Titanic, and Father Grenville in Dead Man Walking.

U.S and International: Miss Trunchbull in Matilda, Jack in Being Earnest, Rutledge in 1776, Prince/Wolf in Into The Woods, Freddy in My Fair Lady, Arthur in Camelot, Hook/Mr. Darling in Peter Pan, Mason in Take Me Out, Bustopher Jones/ Gus/ Growltiger in Cats and Stride/Jekyll/Hyde Alternate in Jekyll and Hyde.

LACHIE MCLEAN

A Northland director for over 40 years, his successes include The Sound of Music which was part of the celebrations to open the Capitaine Bougainville Theatre in 1982.

Lachie has directed more productions at the Capitaine Bougainville than anyone else in NZ. He is the only Northlander ever to win a NAPTA award for Best Director of a Musical. He has achieved this twice – for Les Miserables in 2001, and Miss Saigon in 2011, which also won Best Musical.

Les Miserables and Mamma Mia have been the most attended shows in the history of the Bougainville Theatre.

JESS SAYER

Jess Sayer is a multi-award-winning screenwriter, playwright and actor, whose work has been produced both locally and internationally.

She has won the Playmarket b425 award three times (Fix, Hanged and Elevator). In 2015 she won the prestigious Bruce Mason Playwriting Award and in 2017 was nominated for three SWANZ. She most recently won the 2019 Adam NZ Play Award and also Best Play by a Woman for her latest play This Particular Room. Her plays Elevator, Wings, Crunchy Silk and Fix all had celebrated sell-out seasons at the Basement Theatre in Auckland.

She has written and storylined for Filthy Productions (Dirty Laundry and Filthy Rich), South Pacific Pictures (Shortland Street, Bad Seed 2, Go Girls, Step Dave), and for Warner Brothers and Cinco Cine. She was the Head Writer of the hit Web Series Auckward Love. Jess has most recently been seen on stage in Mr Redlight at the NZ Festival and on television as Kara Hurring in Runaway Millionaires and Maeve Mullins in Shortland Street.

Business Support Services

CREATIVE WEB IDEAS

Jo Lees has developed the Forum North Trust website.