

## Acknowledgment of members who are not standing for re-election

At its meeting on 9 August 2019, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum resolved to minute its appreciation to members who are not standing for re-election in the October 2019 local body elections:

- Mayor Winston Gray, Kaikōura District
- Mayor Winton Dalley, Hurunui District
- Mayor David Ayers, Waimakariri District
- Mayor Damon Odey, Timaru District
- Steve Lowndes, Chair, Environment Canterbury.

In expressing its appreciation to Steve Lowndes, the Forum also acknowledged the service of the late David Bedford, former Chair of Environment Canterbury, who was a member of the Forum from November 2016 until August 2017 when he stood down for health reasons.

## Minute of appreciation – Mayor Winston Gray

*The Canterbury Mayoral Forum acknowledges with thanks the contribution of Mayor Winston Gray to the Forum and to Canterbury since he became Mayor of Kaikōura District in 2010.*

*Winston has championed the Canterbury Water Management Strategy in his district and was a member of the Kaikōura Zone Committee from its inception. Since the Mayoral Forum developed the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS) in 2015, Winston has led the Regional Tourism Strategy work programme. This culminated in 2018 with securing the agreement of all South Island Mayors and Chairs to work together, and with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Tourism NZ, the Department of Conservation and the NZ Transport Agency on a South Island Destination Management Plan.*

*Related projects have been development of 'the Canterbury story', a web-based calendar of major South Island events and support for applications by Canterbury councils to the Government's Tourism Infrastructure Fund.*

*Winston has been an enthusiastic advocate for cycle trails and cycle tourism, including the Coastal Pacific Trail. His passion for the regional tourism strategy of the CREDS was one reason for him choosing to stand for re-election as Mayor in the 2016 local body elections. This was fortunate for his district and the region, because his experience and 'steady hand' were needed following the North Canterbury earthquakes of November 2016. Winston has provided leadership through the*

### **Mayors standing together for Canterbury.**

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*earthquake and recovery process, seizing opportunities to bring together central government, council, the community, Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura, businesses and other stakeholders to forge a new future for the district.*

## **Minute of appreciation – Mayor Winton Dalley**

*The Canterbury Mayoral Forum acknowledges with thanks the contribution of Mayor Winton Dalley to the Forum and to Canterbury since he became Mayor of Hurunui District in 2010.*

*Winton has been a stalwart of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy since its inception, and an advocate for the ‘gifts and gains’ required in a genuinely collaborative, community-led approach to freshwater management – in the Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee, the Regional Water Committee and more broadly across the region.*

*Since the Mayoral Forum developed the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS) in 2015, Winton has led the regional transport work programme, advocating for integrated, multi-modal transport solutions that are safer, resilient, cost-effective and sustainable.*

*Related projects have included re-framing the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2015–25 and incorporating Mayoral Forum aspirations and priorities in the 2018–28 RLTP; formation of a South Island Regional Transport Committees Chairs Group; convening a transport sector reference group; work with the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and Ministry of Transport on national freight indicators research and visitor flows, to inform transport planning and investment and visitor destination management; and a resilience stocktake with NZTA of transport infrastructure in Canterbury.*

*In 2019, Winton has been a member of the Mayoral Forum’s Climate Change Steering Group.*

*Winton has been a strong voice within the Mayoral Forum for the interests of rural communities and has championed rural health services within his district. His leadership following the North Canterbury earthquakes of November 2016 was critical to the response, recovery and resilience of Hurunui District and North Canterbury.*

## **Minute of appreciation – Mayor David Ayers**

*The Canterbury Mayoral Forum acknowledges with thanks the contribution of Mayor David Ayers to the Forum and to Canterbury since he became Mayor of Waimakariri District in 2010. He was elected Deputy-Chair of the Mayoral Forum from 2013 to 2016.*

*David has championed the Canterbury Water Management Strategy within his district and has provided committed leadership throughout the Waimakariri sub-regional planning process.*

*Since the Mayoral Forum developed the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS) in 2015, David has led the education and training work programme, with its objectives of a skilled and educated workforce and alignment of business, education and local government to make Canterbury a great place to study, live and work. He has chaired an education and training reference group since 2015 – members have included representatives of the University of Canterbury, Lincoln University, Ara Institute, the Lincoln University AgResearch Joint Facility, Community College North Canterbury, the Primary ITO, ChristchurchNZ, Aoraki Development, Tokona te Raki (Ngāi Tahu), the Ministry of Education and Careers NZ. The reference group has warmly affirmed the value of this group as an independently facilitated forum, most recently when*

*David led development of a submission on the Government's proposed reforms of vocational education in 2019.*

*Related projects have included advocacy for international education, retention of international graduates in post-study employment in Canterbury, and development of a 'Canterbury story' to support attraction of students, investment, business, workers and visitors to our region.*

*David led Waimakariri District through the Canterbury earthquakes of 2010–11 and provided support following the Hurunui-Kaikōura earthquake sequence in 2016. Together with the Mayors of neighbouring territorial authorities, he displayed outstanding leadership in the local and regional response to, and recovery from, these significant natural disasters.*

## **Minute of appreciation – Mayor Damon Odey**

*The Canterbury Mayoral Forum acknowledges with thanks the contribution of Mayor Damon Odey to the Forum and to Canterbury since he became Mayor of Timaru District in 2013.*

*Since the Mayoral Forum developed the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS) in 2015, Damon has led the Digital Connectivity work programme, with an emphasis on the extension, uptake and use of fast broadband in rural Canterbury. An early and very significant win was his successful advocacy with Spark NZ to bring forward its roll-out of 4G across the entire region by the end of 2016 – at no cost to ratepayers or taxpayers. Since then, he has continued to advocate with central government, Crown Infrastructure Partners and the private sector to map remaining gaps in broadband coverage and identify innovative solutions to plug these. With a funding grant from the Regional Growth Programme, he commissioned a project to gather, write up and publish stories about how businesses are using fast broadband in rural Canterbury, to encourage continued uptake and use. His leadership in rural digital connectivity was recognised by his appointment to the Digital Economy and Digital Inclusion Ministerial Advisory Group.*

*Damon has also supported a project developed by Aoraki Development to link young people with employment opportunities and career pathways in South Canterbury. The youth transitions project (MynextMove) has been extended throughout South Canterbury and we are currently exploring opportunities to adapt it and roll it out in mid-Canterbury.*

*Damon has championed the Canterbury Water Management Strategy in his district and the wider region. He has been a passionate advocate for Timaru District and a staunch proponent of the Mayoral Forum standing together to secure the success of the wider region.*

*During the 2016–19 local government term, Damon has been Deputy-Chair of the Mayoral Forum. He has brought to the Mayoral Forum and its work positive leadership, the knack of getting things done, an increasing facility in te reo Māori and his own well-shod brand of sartorial elegance. He leaves big (and colourful) shoes to fill.*

## **Minute of appreciation – David Bedford and Steve Lowndes**

*The Canterbury Mayoral Forum acknowledges with thanks the contributions of David Bedford and Steve Lowndes to the Forum and to Canterbury during the 2016–19 local government term.*

*In October 2016, David was elected Chair and Steve Deputy-Chair of Environment Canterbury. Steve became acting Chair and a member of the Mayoral Forum when David took leave of*

*absence for health reasons in August 2017 and was elected Chair of Environment Canterbury when David resigned in November 2017. David sadly passed away in February 2018.*

*The Forum acknowledges the contributions of both David and Steve to maintaining open communication, collaboration and trust between the regional council and the ten territorial authorities in Canterbury.*

*A previous chair of the Banks Peninsula Zone Committee, Steve has been Mayoral Forum lead for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy since 2017. This included delivery of the Fit for the Future project and development of intermediate goals for 2025 and 2030. These goals were adopted by the Mayoral Forum in May 2019. With support from the Canterbury Operations Forum, Environment Canterbury will now lead work with territorial authorities, Ngāi Tahu, industry and community partners to develop a regional work programme, with an implementation plan and monitoring framework to deliver the goals.*

*As Chair of the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee, Steve has supported the realisation of the Mayoral Forum's objectives for integrated regional transport planning, and investment and research on visitor flows commissioned by the South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs Group. This has yielded information that is critical to current work on a South Island Destination Management Plan.*

*In 2019, Steve has been a member of the Mayoral Forum's Climate Change Steering Group and has advocated for serious and sustained attention to climate change-related issues in Canterbury.*