



Regional Economic Development Weekly Report

Week ending:	2 March 2018	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2321 17-18

Recipient	Action sought
Hon Shane Jones Minister for Regional Economic Development	Note the contents of this Weekly Report
Fletcher Tabuteau Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development	Note the contents of this Weekly Report

John Doorbar
Regional Economic Development Director
Labour, Science and Enterprise

2/03/2018

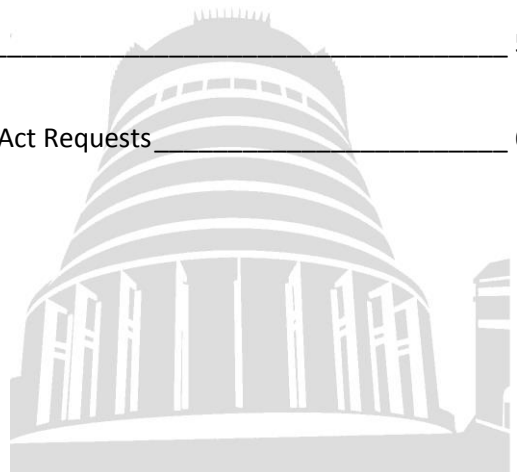
Hon Shane Jones
Minister for Regional Economic Development

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Minister's comments:

Regional Economic Development Weekly Report

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Updates

Maori Battalion Museum - Waitangi

The Ministry for Culture and Heritage is working with the Waitangi National Trust Board (Board) on an engagement strategy for the Board to invite the support and participation of representatives from the Maori Battalion companies named A, B, C and D for the museum.

The Minister for Culture and Heritage understand the Board has the support of A Company but it has not consulted more widely, and it is not well known that the museum will be national in scope.

Engagement with the other companies will support any Ministerial announcement alongside Board members and 28th Māori Battalion representatives, potentially on Anzac Day 2018, which is consistent with directions from the Prime Minister's office.

We will keep you updated on this.

Contact Person:

Mark Patterson

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PGF Proposals - Update

The Provincial Growth Fund was launched Friday 23 February. The Ministry website can be found here www.mbie.govt.nz/regions and has information on the fund including the structure, its criteria and an Expression of Interest form.

Interest in the fund from stakeholders across the country has been substantial and some enquiries have been received directly from them. However the bulk of enquiry has come through our designated PGF email inbox. We have been monitoring general enquiries and proposals to give us a sense of potential additional projects for the pipeline. These are in addition to the existing pipeline. We will work with these applicants to develop them further.

Using this weekly report, we will provide you an update of enquiries and proposals received.

Number of Enquiries	Number of Proposals
14	8

Contact Person:

Stephanie Weller

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Predator Free Rakiura

The Predator Free Rakiura project aims to rid Stewart Island/Rakiura of rats, possums, cats and hedgehogs. The project is led by the Predator Free Rakiura Leadership Group which includes representatives of the local community, Iwi, local government, business, hunting and DOC.

Funding of \$100,000 will be provided from regional economic development funding to support a Project Manager for 12-months.

The purpose of this role is to work closely with the community to develop a proposal that is ready for detailed design and acceptable to investors. The Project Manager will be based within the Department of Conservation Invercargill office.

To date the Leadership Group has relied on in-kind support from the various agencies, stakeholders and individuals involved. The original scoping report pulled together in 2008 was funded by the Tindell Foundation (\$Comm) while the Morgan Foundation funded the establishment of a website and supported community engagement meetings. Southland District Council has provided approximately \$Com to cover technical support, meeting rooms and facilities, admin, and meals. DOC has provided a similar amount to cover air fares and reimbursement for meeting attendance. DOC funded the technical reports and the Social Impact Assessment (approximately \$Comm).

Eradicating these predators from Stewart Island will:

- Enhance biodiversity, enabling existing species to thrive (e.g. brown kiwi, NZ dotterel, fern-bird and kaka) and reintroduction of species such as kakapo.
- It will support a sustainable community through the creation of new, long-term jobs (e.g. predator incursion monitoring and management, biosecurity management, and tourism support).
- Enables the creation of an internationally unique identity and brand for Rakiura – there is no other predator free island of this size with a viable community anywhere else in the world.

Contact Person:
Abby Cheeseman
Privacy of

Milford Opportunities Project Update

The Milford Opportunities Project Governance Group visited Milford Sound on 15-16 February. The visit allowed the Group to experience the pressures of peak season, better understand the visitor issues and opportunities, and hear first-hand from some of the operators.

The Group is focussed on growing the economy, building on the opportunities Milford provides, in a sustainable way, that enhances the environment and the unique values of the National Park.

Accompanying the Governance Group on the visit were the newly appointed project management team – a partnership between Opus Consulting and Xyst.

The next steps are for Opus/Xyst to undertake research to understand what is currently known and what else is needed to better inform the project. They will work closely with agencies and stakeholders to gather relevant information and research reports, with this phase taking up to six months.

As this phase finishes, any gaps in information will be filled through further research. Ultimately this information will feed into the strategy and overall masterplan which will create a framework for the future of Milford Sound and the road corridor, to enhance it and the national park.

The Independent Chair of the Governance Group, Keith Turner has offered to meet with Ministers on the project. Officials welcome this meeting and propose this includes Ministers for Regional Economic Development, Tourism and Conservation. If Ministers are interested, officials will co-ordinate with relevant offices and the Chair.

We understand that the Minister of Conservation is visiting Milford Sound 9/10 March 2018.

Officials will continue to keep you updated on this project.

Contact Person:
Abby Cheeseman
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Launch of Waikato Māori Economic Development Agenda and Action Plan

A Māori Economic Development Action Plan and Agenda for the Waikato region was released by the Minister for Māori Development in Ngāruawāhia on Friday 23rd February.

The plan was developed by Waikato-Tainui with support from Te Puni Kōkiri, Waikato Means Business (the group overseeing the Waikato region's economic development strategy) and the Waikato Regional Council. The plan and agenda's development had input from a range of iwi and Māori organisations from around the Waikato.

The action plan will focus on the next few years while the economic agenda looks out a decade. Some of the shorter-terms actions include having all rangatahi leaving school with NCEA level 3 and driving developments in tourism and information technology. Longer term work will include developing Waikato Māori business branding and increasing collaboration over land productivity.

As part of the launch, the region also announced the establishment of a Māori Business Hub, comprising a range of Māori and business entities across the Waikato region. The Hub will drive implementation of the Māori Action Plan.

Contact Person:

Neasa Carroll

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Media and Communications Schedule

Timing	Events and Announcements	Proposed activity
19 Mar 18 – TBC	Opotiki Harbour Development project announcement	Your office will be provided with communications material
5 or 6 April 2018 - TBC	Taranaki Economic Action Plan launch	Your office will be provided with communications material
June 18 - TBC	Waikato Regional Economic Development Action Plan launch	Your office will be provided with communications material

Upcoming Regional Visits

Timing	Region	Proposed activity
February	West Coast	TBC
April	Taranaki	Launch of the Economic Action Plan

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Upcoming Briefings

Due Ministers Office	Title	Sign Out Manager
5 Mar 18	Minister attending New Zealand Initiative retreat, 8 March	Stephanie Weller
5 Mar 18	Meeting with Kaikoura District Council, 6 March	Stephanie Weller

Ministerial Correspondence

Requestor's Name	Tracking number and Request	Due to Minister	Sign Out Manager
Privacy of [REDACTED]	SJ524	5 Mar 18	John Doorbar
Privacy of [REDACTED]	SJ675	12 Mar 18	John Doorbar

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Ministerial Official Information Act Requests

Requestor's Name	Tracking number and Request	Due to Minister	Status	Sign Out Manager
Privacy of natural persons	SJ OIA13 A list of briefing topics requested by you as Minister of X since 26 October 2017	9 March 2018	Response being formed	John Doorbar
Privacy	SJ OIA32 NZTE NZ Investment Attraction Slide Pack, Investment Attraction, Education NZ - New Zealand's International Education Industry, Notes on He Poutama Rangatahi, Economic Development Agencies of New Zealand structure, funding, and current levels of Government support, He kai kei aku ringa Rangatahi Event at Waitangi 2018 " as referenced in his response to written question 1356 (2018)	15 March 2018	Response being formed	John Doorbar

PROACTIVELY RELEASED