

Tasman Bays Heritage Trust | Nelson Provincial Museum Half Year Report to Joint Committee

1st July 2022 – 31st December 2022

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TASMAN BAYS HERITAGE TRUST HALF-YEAR REPORT TO JOINT COMMITTEE

Introduction

Nelson Provincial Museum's Purpose is:

To care for, strengthen and make widely accessible the taonga and heritage collections of Nelson Tasman; and to create unforgettable experiences that stimulate awareness, celebrate diversity and entertain.

The Museum makes a significant contribution to Council Community Outcomes in the Nelson Tasman region. As identified in the recent BERL report into 'The Value of Museums and Galleries in Aotearoa'¹, museums make quantifiable contributions to the Economic, Cultural, Social and Environmental Wellbeing of their rohe. Research demonstrates that our communities feel passionately about both our value, and our vital role in creating liveable cities.

Nelson Provincial Museum is charged by NCC and TDC with caring for a significant Regional Heritage Collection currently valued at \$20m. We are an employer of 20 staff including a number of highly skilled and nationally respected museum professionals. While receiving less funding than some other comparable regional museums, we continue to punch above our weight in bringing outstanding value to ratepayers and non-fiscal benefits to our local families who engage with our programmes inside and outside our walls.

It is a pleasure to present Nelson Provincial Museum's Half-Yearly Report which outlines how we have performed against our Statement of Service Indicators since 1st June 2022.

Archives, Research and Collections Facility

As outlined in the Museum's Statement of Intent for the past five years, our key strategic goal is to **plan for and commence a capital works project which will safely and appropriately house and care for the Nelson Tasman Regional Heritage Collection.**

Significant progress has been achieved in the period of this report. In September we informed both Nelson City and Tasman District Councils of the appointment of the lead architect and supporting team for the design phases of the ARC facility project. CGW Consulting Engineers, our selected project management partner, conducted a robust procurement process and continue to manage the project through the design phases. The Site Master Plan and Concept Design has been completed, and the Preliminary Design is due to be completed in January 2023.

The rain event in August 2022 was a timely reminder of the critical need for a new facility to house the collection, with the Isel Park facility facing ongoing water tightness challenges including flood risk. Staff worked around the clock to ensure the safety of the collections. The curators are skilled professionals who do their best with plastic sheeting and sandbags, but the conditions are grossly inadequate for a regional collection which - although valued at NZD\$20 million - is irreplaceable. If lost, these taonga and treasures will be lost forever.

¹ BERL 2022, reference #6302, available on request from Nelson Provincial Museum

Ongoing Council support and action is required during the next six months to process the resource consent application (submitted in January 2023), resolve the issue of the abandoned land alongside the site of the new ARC facility, and fulfil financial commitments of the design phase to enable timely progress on this crucial regional project.

Taonga Māori

The Museum is guided by Te Taiao Komiti, the Iwi advisory group consisting of the six mana whenua iwi from the marae in Whakatū, Motueka and Mōhua.

Mahi in this period has included liaising with local whānau to tell the stories in the new upcoming exhibition *‘Morimoritia Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho | Treasured: Objects of Mana and Significance’*. This exhibition also has the distinction of being the Museum’s first fully bi-lingual self-curated exhibition, with all labels in te reo Māori and English. We are especially delighted that whānau themselves have written the accompanying text for their taonga.

The Museum’s Kaitiaki Taonga Hamuera Manihera works closely with Ngākahu National Repatriation Partnership. On a regional level, he also helped to facilitate the Ngākahu tikanga workshop at Omaka Marae.

The Museum was delighted to commission a contemporary pūtātara made by Layton Robertson, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō. The artist applies traditional techniques and materials to its construction which complements older taonga pūoro in the collection.

The Regional Heritage Collection

In this period the collections team, with support from regular volunteers and a visiting intern, have focussed on preparing the collection for relocation. This included reducing backlogged material, auditing and securing hazardous material, improving catalogue records and identifying opportunities for rationalisation and deaccession. Researcher enquiries have been strong, with an average of 20 hours per month spent answering these. Most enquiries result in new research and catalogue updates that benefit future users. Image orders continue to provide content for community displays, local and international researchers, and publication (although, in line with the experience of other museums international, paid orders for image reproduction continue to drop).

Curators have also written a variety of taonga and object-based research articles which are published monthly in the Nelson Mail. These have a readership ranging between 1,000 – 7,000. Taonga Māori stories have seen particularly high readership and positive response from iwi, with some shared widely by national organisations including Te Papa – a tribute to their scholarship and mātauranga.

As part of our support for regional heritage organisations, the Museum provided professional expertise and assistance to staff and volunteers from Motueka Museum and external loans to the Suter Art Gallery, Isel House and Broadgreen House. The Senior Curator of Photography delivered five invitation talks over four months to over 140 local attendees in the community. We also offered support to the Suter Art Gallery when our colleagues were impacted by the flooding.

Key acquisitions to the Collection during this period include an original Snow Craft freezing works advertising sign from the 1940s/50s and a NCC voting box from the 1950s/60s.

Visitor Experience and Exhibitions

The second half of 2022 saw three different exhibitions available concurrently in our upstairs gallery, while we also created opportunities for community engagement partnerships with Nelson Clay Week and Nelson Arts Festival. We were delighted to have the *'Ablaze'* (Tasman Fires 2019) exhibition out on display again at the Higgins Park Transport Festival, the National Forest Growers Research conference, and the Marlborough and Nelson A&P Shows in collaboration with FENZ. Our new summer hands-on display *'Curious Contraptions'*, on tour from London, has received fantastic feedback and good visitor numbers since opening mid-December. We are confident it will continue to bring strong visitation over the summer period.

We were also pleased to roll out two new accessibility initiatives alongside the exhibition *'Curious Contraptions'* for our neurodiverse visitors. The Social Stories and Sensory Bags have been very warmly received by the community.

Museum staff have enjoyed the opportunity to complement internationally touring shows with local stories. The UNESCO-inscribed photography collection was used to curate both 1) *'The Voice of Climate Change'* alongside the internationally touring *'Meltdown: Visualising Climate Change'* exhibition; and 2) *'Have you heard of Pixie Town? Nelson's Curious Creations'* alongside *'Curious Contraptions'*. Local visitors in particular have enjoyed the glimpses of Nelson's past provided by the latter, as F N Jones's puppets were a treasured memory of many local childhoods.

The Museum introduced a free after school drop-in session *'Toi Ahiahi | Afternoon Art'* every Thursday afternoon during term time. This initiative saw great uptake with over 100 participants. Our team also offered a one-off event as part of the Night Vision event of the Arts Festival where visitors viewed the *'Meltdown'* exhibition by torchlight. Both initiatives have received excellent feedback and we are looking forward to offering further events the second part of the year, including those for Tuku 23 Heritage Festival.

Education

The Museum was pleased to secure a new Ministry of Education contract to deliver local curriculum content for the next 3.5 years. At a time when several established museum providers lost their funding, this is a vote of confidence in our ability to share taonga-based local knowledge and iwi histories (including the Nelson Tenth's) with tamariki and rangatahi. Teacher satisfaction levels are currently at 100%.

Visitation

This period began with slow visitation, once again impacted by Covid outbreaks and a lack of international visitors. With the reopening of borders, and the opening of the extremely popular *'Curious Contraptions'* exhibition in December, visitor numbers picked up significantly. The Museum finished this period with over 22,000 visitors. With two record breaking days following in January, we are confident of meeting our annual target.

It was a pleasure to see the return of international visitors, bringing with them the hope of a return to normal visitation patterns. Their return has also had a positive impact in our gift shop sales, and also put money into the pocket of the local artists and makers whose products we stock.

Sustainability

In prior financial years, the Museum undertook an EMSOL Energy Audit to measure our energy footprint and identify ways to reduce our energy footprint. We are now implementing their recommendations to reduce energy consumption, which in this period included replacing standard light fittings to LEDs in this period, upgrading the Building Management System (BMS) and implementing nightly Heating, Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) shutdowns. These measures have been effective in reducing our power usage. However, the savings have been offset by the significant increases in power costs, although reducing the Museum's carbon footprint.

A business case is in development to investigate the feasibility of solar power for both the current Museum and the ARC Facility.

Facilities, Maintenance and Infrastructure

As is widely acknowledged, the Research Facility at Isel Park is at the end of its useful life. Unfortunately, expenditure is still required on the building to protect the Regional Collection in the short-term. In this period, work has been undertaken to repair leaks and improve watertightness, and the security system has been upgraded. A FENZ review of fire safety has recently identified new issues to resolve.

On-going maintenance has also been required at the Trafalgar St site, with a replacement of a front window and upgrade to the BMS required.

A multi-year project to replace the Museum's ageing server has been completed, significantly increasing storage capacity, data security, and allowing a greatly enhanced user experience.

Finance

The Museum continues in a healthy financial position due to prudent fiscal management. The YTD Jul-Dec budget was for a loss of \$115k once adjustment has been made for fair-value Council loans, but the actual result is a loss of \$56k.

Lower than budgeted exhibition costs are due to the production timeline for *'Morimoritia Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho | Treasured: Objects of Mana and Significance'* falling in the second half of the financial year. Staffing costs are also temporarily under budget.

It is also to be noted that the 2022/23 FY budget had been prepared based on the amount applied for to the Ministry of Education. This funding was not adjusted upwards, so education expenditure has been trimmed to balance income.

ARC Facility expenditure is currently funded from operational spending and financial support from Councils is required to be able to progress this vital project.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the Period 1 July - 31 December 2022

	Actual	Budget	Actual
	2022	2022	2021
Revenue	1,158,686	1,180,739	1,176,888
Less Direct Costs	789,543	883,127	799,016
Gross Profit	<hr/> 369,144	<hr/> 297,612	<hr/> 377,872
Less Expenses	185,164	191,580	159,219
Operating Profit	<hr/> 183,980	<hr/> 106,032	<hr/> 218,653
Less Depreciation	239,325	220,880	199,634
Net Surplus/Deficit	<hr/> (55,345) <hr/>	<hr/> (114,848) <hr/>	<hr/> 19,019 <hr/>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and Bank	203,787	354,805
Debtors and Prepayments	54,021	65,223
Term Deposit	160,873	160,000
Stock on Hand	34,519	28,820
WIP (ARC Project)	107,784	-
Non Current Assets	31,967,595	32,188,023
Total Assets	32,528,579	32,796,870
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Creditors and GST	155,432	107,004
Income in Advance	46,199	48,123
Accruals (Annual leave and Wages)	73,335	74,814
Term Liabilities	706,220	867,075
Total Liabilities	981,187	1,097,016
Net Assets	31,547,392	31,699,855
<u>Equity</u>		
Current Year Earnings	(55,345)	19,019
Retained Earnings	14,583,164	14,661,263
Revaluation Reserve	17,019,573	17,019,573
Total Equity	31,547,392	31,699,855

CASHFLOW STATEMENT
For the Period 1 July - 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
<u>Cash flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Council Operating Grants	999,380	943,475
Contracts	42,295	41,095
Interest Received	2,887	477
Receipts from Other Revenue	113,968	213,883
Payments to Suppliers (incl GST) and Employees	(951,671)	(1,066,487)
Net Cash from Operating Activities	206,859	132,443
<u>Cash flows from Investing Activities</u>		
WIP - ARC Project	(107,784)	-
Purchase of Property Plant and Equipment	(66,309)	(87,151)
Net Cash from Investing Activities	(174,093)	(87,151)
<u>Cash flows from Financing Activities</u>		
Repayment of Council Loans	(100,000)	(100,000)
Net Cash from Financing Activities	(100,000)	(100,000)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	(67,234)	(54,708)
Cash at 1 July 2022	271,021	408,868
Cash at 31 December 2022	203,787	354,160

TASMAN BAYS HERITAGE TRUST

HALF-YEARLY REPORT TO JOINT COMMITTEE 1 July 2022 – 31 December 2022

Strategic goal	Actions	Measures / KPI	Status	Notes
1. To plan for and commence a capital works project which will safely and appropriately house and care for the Nelson Tasman Regional Heritage Collection.	1.1 Robust planning, budgeting, fundraising and project management.	1.1.1 Project Phases 2- 5 complete by 30 June 2023 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site Master Plan • Concept Design including iwi and Council consultation • Developed Design 	On Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architect and design team procurement completed • Site Master Plan and Concept Design completed Architect presentation to Komiti complete; ongoing engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed (Preliminary) Design due to be complete in January 2023 • Resource consent application to be submitted by February 2023 Six weeks has been allowed for Council to process the Resource consent application. <i>Any Council delays may impact project.</i>
	1.2 Identifying, canvassing and securing funding sources	1.2.1 50% of non-Council funding secured by 30 June 2023.	Deferred to 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in the funding environment has resulted in adjustments to the timing of funding applications. For example the Lotteries Significant Projects Grant fund is in recess this year (a decision on whether LSPF comes out of recess is due in late June 2023) • There is a requirement for Resource Consent to be obtained before applying to The Lottery Grants Board; Resource Consent has been lodged and is progressing well.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lottery Grants Board Environment & Heritage application in progress • Procured external campaign expertise to design Fundraising Campaign. • Completed work to ensure the organisation is 'fundraising fit', which included developing a fundraising policy, procedure, internal forms and processes.
2. To be a highly valued visitor destination, educational provider and venue for cultural and community connection	2.1 Implement a programme which attracts our diverse local communities	2.1.1 Design and deliver a varied visitor experience including at least three temporary exhibitions by 30 June 2022	Achieved	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'Te Ngū Tipua: Ngā Wāhanga Weriweri! Colossal Squid: Freaky Features!' (Jun-Aug '22) 2. 'Meltdown: Visualising Climate Change' (Jun-Nov '22) 3. 'Voices of Climate Change' (Jul-Nov '22) 4. 'Curious Contraptions' (Dec – Feb '23) 5. 'Have you heard of Pixie town? (Dec – Feb '23) 6. 'Morimoritia Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho Treasured: Objects of Mana and Significance' (Apr-Jul '23)
		2.1.2 Implement at least one new accessibility improvement by 30 June 2022	Achieved	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social-story for neuro-diverse visitors published on website 2. Sensory Packs available for neurodiverse visitors developed for 'Curious Contraptions'

		2.1.3 Design at least one initiative in partnership with iwi to support Māori visitation	On Track	1. <i>Morimoritia Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho Treasured: Objects of Mana and Significance</i> exhibition will be fully bi-lingual and will have significant Māori content. Taonga interpretation will be provided by whānau.
		2.1.4 Implement a Te Reo Māori language policy	On Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based upon policies from other museums and adapted for our circumstances. Scheduled for presentation to Te Tai Ao Komiti meeting for feedback before presenting to Trustees
	2.2 Consolidating and attaining visitation targets in post-COVID environment	2.2.1 Achieve target visitation of 50,000 across all venues (excluding education) by 30 June 2023	On Track	1 st July – 31 st Dec 22,351 Visitation in January 2023 so far: 7,532 With two record setting days (5 th : 947, 6 th : 1,003)
	2.3	2.3.1 Achieve target of 6,000 education visits and outreach, including ECE primary,	On Track	1 st July – 31 st Dec: 2223 students, accompanied by 240 adults

	Consolidate education visitation in a post-Covid and post-LEOTC environment	and secondary groups, subject to confirmation of Ministry of Education ELC funding enabling increased staffing levels.		Note: Ministry of Education reduced the target to 5,500 since the SOI was published
2.4	Provide a high-quality customer service and visitor experience	2.4.1 Demonstrated by a minimum of two customer surveys with rating of at least 85% satisfaction	On Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Survey underway for Curious Contraptions. Currently at 89% satisfaction. • Will take part in national month-long Museums Aotearoa survey in February
2.5	Provide a high-quality educational service	2.5.1 Teacher satisfaction demonstrated by an average of at least 90% over all teacher evaluations.	On Track	Current 100% satisfaction rate

3. To actively support and collaborate with iwi and Nelson Tasman cultural heritage organisations	3.1 Providing advice, guidance, content, mentoring and support to smaller galleries, libraries, archives and museums within Nelson Tasman	3.1.1 Provide 50 hours of professional support and assistance to Te Taihū district museums and cultural organisations by 30 June 2023	Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 hours of professional support to Murchison Museum • ABLAZE – Higgins Heritage Park Transport Festive (1-2 Oct '22) - 40 hours
		3.1.2 Organise at least two regional museum hui by 30 June 2023	On track	Organisation underway
	3.2 Collaborating with Nelson Tasman cultural heritage organisations and iwi	3.2.1 Participate in at least one collaborative project with a Nelson Tasman cultural heritage organisation or iwi by 30 June 2023.	On track	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaboration with Ngāti Kuia on Regional Gallery case refreshment 2. In conversation with Q Youth to develop digital content 3. Involvement in Tuku 23 Nelson Heritage Festival

4. To continue to develop and provide appropriate care for a strong Collection which is relevant and accessible to, and valued by, Nelson Tasman communities	4.1 Actively collecting objects that are strongly related to the history and cultural story of Nelson Tasman	4.1.1 Collect at least two relevant contemporary local objects or taonga by 30 June 2023	On track	Putatara commissioned from Layton Robinson
	4.2 Provide access for our visitors to connect with the Collection digitally, on-site and in the community	4.2.2 Upgrade Collections Online to use Vernon Browser version 7.0	On track	Upgrade scheduled in March-April 2023
	4.3 Prepare collection for relocation	4.3.1 Implement first phase collection relocation plan	On track	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Iwi consultation about taonga movements underway 2. Backlog processing in progress

5. To improve our sustainability performance.	5.1 Implement energy savings identified in EMSOL Energy Audit	5.1.1 Implement three initiatives identified in EMSOL Energy Audit to reduce power consumption by 30 June 2023	On track	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 90 light fittings to be replaced by LEDs. Education and Exhibition offices, Foyers and 95% of gallery lighting has now been changed over. 2) Network fee load group change underway 3) Bathroom and Workshop PRI sensors in train
	5.2 Implement actions to improve sustainability performance	5.2.1 Implement at least one new staff driven initiative by 30 June 2023	Achieved	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Battery recycling implemented for both Town and Isele sites 2. Secure print being introduced on all printers to reduce unwanted printing 3. Nightly HVAC shutdowns extended