



NEW SOLICITOR GETS BACK TO HIS ROOTS

He's a lawyer, a former boxer and an all-round nice guy – meet our new corporate solicitor, Nigel McAdie!

You might have heard of Nigel – last year he fundraised and fought for the hugely successful Zero Risk King of the Ring boxing event. He's also been a lawyer for the past few decades, most recently as a partner at Le Pine and Co.

Now he's just taken up the reins for the council's legal side.

For Nigel, it's getting back to his roots – he worked with us as a young lawyer many years ago, specialising in environmental and regulatory law with the then Environmental Services team.

"I left the council to go and experience private practice, but after nine years away, I'm really happy to be back," he said.

At Le Pine and Co he worked in resource management, local government and property law, so he comes fully equipped with knowledge for the new job.

"Here at the council you tend to get involved in many different aspects and stages of projects," he said. "I'm looking forward to working for just one client and enjoying the different dynamics that brings."

Nigel has lived in Taupō multiple times over the years, and keeps finding himself drawn back.



LOOKING AFTER THE PLACE we love

"It has a great work-life balance – the great outdoors are on your doorstep and it takes no time to get anywhere," he said. "It's a great place to bring up a family – there are lots of opportunities for children growing up, particularly outdoors."

He said although he wasn't originally from Taupō, it was an incredibly welcoming town and he found it easy to meet people here.

"I think Taupō is doing really well marketing itself as the Events Capital of New Zealand," he said.

"I enjoy that event culture, the buzz, there's always something happening."

DEVELOPMENT BRINGS RESULTS



Encouraging economic development in our district is a key component of our long term strategy.

Economic development not only creates additional employment opportunities, it adds resilience to our economy when individual sectors can falter under changing circumstances. A further benefit is the vibrancy that this brings that in turn helps us achieve our key goal of ensuring the Taupō District is a great place to live.

There has been much talk, both on social media and otherwise, about the proposal to create a covered carp farm in Rakanui Road. This is a very complicated issue and I certainly am not qualified to give an expert opinion.

Consent for the actual fish farm activity sits outside our realm of responsibility, and rightly so, this is up to the Department of Conservation and the Ministry for Primary Industries. I am proud to tell you that if I see an opportunity to create jobs in our district, I will always be supportive. As your Mayor, I wrote a letter of conditional support for the application. In doing so, I was very clear that I entrust the various consenting authorities and scientific experts with ensuring any associated risks are mitigated. They are the specialists and, ultimately, any decision rests with them. If the expert scientists cannot give us, the people of this district, the assurances we need for protection of our waterways then of course we would need to express concerns.

Job creation sits high on my agenda. It gives me great pleasure to know that since Enterprise Great Lake Taupō kicked off its business attraction campaign 18 months ago, some 30 businesses have engaged with them about making the Taupō District the place they call home. Our employment market reached an all-time high last year with 18,539 jobs, up from 17,911 in 2014.

The good news does not stop there. The property market is booming, the hospitality sector is buzzing, and the latest Marketview report shows retail spending in the quarter ending in December totalled \$157.85 million, a 6.2 per cent increase on the same period last year. This compared to a 2.6 per cent increase for the country overall. As you can see we certainly have plenty to celebrate.

Finally, I must wish the best of luck to Lake Taupō Hospice, finalists in the national Trustpower Community Awards in Dunedin this weekend. They were very deserving winners at the Taupō District awards for their annual Creative Catwalk wearable arts competition and, win or lose, they have done our district proud. I am sure you will join me in wishing them well.

David

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BE SAFE! GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS

TIPS FOR STRONG NEIGHBOURLY CONNECTIONS

- Introduce yourselves to each other.
- Form a simple plan of action to help each other out during an emergency.
- Do a practise run to see if it works.
- Talk to each other on a regular basis and keep the lines of communication open.



How well do you know your neighbours?

This weekend communities around the country are celebrating Neighbours' Day and it's also a great time to remind you why neighbours are important during a Civil Defence emergency.

Emergency manager Ian Connon said Civil Defence and neighbourly bonds were tightly linked and needed to be nurtured.

"We spend a lot of our time in our homes, which means it's likely that when an emergency happens your neighbours will be nearby," he said.

"They can provide support – as you can for them – and make recovering from an emergency a much easier process."

Ian said the Taupō District had pretty good neighbourly relations as we were made up of provincial towns with communities who talked to each other. "We need to build on this with our neighbours and through community clubs, sports and schools," he said.

It's easy to get to know your neighbours – pop around for a visit, organise a street get together or make small chat collecting your paper in the morning.

It could make all the difference in an emergency, and it's important to be prepared!

EASTER RUBBISH AND RECYCLING

Whether you're heading away or staying in our beautiful district for Easter, there are some changes to our rubbish and recycling collection you need to know about.

On Good Friday, March 25, there will be no collections. Those normally done on this day will be done on Thursday, March 24 instead.

Please remember to have your rubbish and recycling out on the kerbside by 7.30am as usual.

Normal collections resume on Easter Monday, March 28.

The Broadlands Road landfill and resource recovery centre and other transfer stations will all be closed on Good Friday but open normal hours all other days.

Our offices in Taupō, Turangi and Mangakino will be closed on Friday, March 25 and Monday, March 28.

Enjoy your Easter break!



What's on?

- March 18-20 New Zealand Jetski Championships, Kinloch
- March 19 Turangi Sweet Souzn, Tokaanu Tailrace
- March 19-20 Taupō Fishing Club Annual Open Trout Tournament, Taupō
- March 20 Greenlea Rescue Helicopter Open Day, Taupō Airport
- March 23-27 Easterfest 2016, Great Lake Centre, Taupō
- March 26-27 Turangi Easter Festival, Turangi Town Centre

For more information on Taupō District events visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz

