

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

30 November



## From the Mayor

On behalf of the Council, I commend the community based testing teams that started within hours of the announcement of the district's first positive COVID-19 Delta case on Saturday.

Testing continued over the weekend with more 60 people swabbed on Saturday at Kawerau's testing stations at the Ron Hardie Rec Centre and the Kawerau Medical Centre.

There was also two vaccination events on the weekend, with a shorter Saturday session vaccinating 53 people and another Sunday whanau event vaccinating 65 people.

Sunday was a community event combining kai, kanohi-te-kanohi (face to face) discussions about the vaccination and music at Sandys Bay nearby the Tarawera River at Tarawera Park.

Targeted events like this during the past month have made a significant impact on Kawerau's vaccination figures.

The results of targeted community events and after hours' clinics resulted in just over 10% of the eligible population getting their first dose in the past month alone, of which, 75% of whom are Māori.

These results have been made possible with a collaborative group of Kawerau stakeholders and organisations led by Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau Hauora with support from the District Health Board and Ministry of Health.

We look forward to more people taking the opportunity for vaccination and protecting themselves and the ones they love.

Also, it's timely to know

In Kawerau, there are 6,115 people eligible for vaccination. 79% have received their first dose, 66% their second dose. For Māori the percentages are 74% and 56% respectively.

Ministry of Health figures show that since 1 November around 640 first doses have been given, of which approximately 75% have been given to Māori. Around 860 second doses have been given, of which more than 60% were for Māori. Māori make up just over half the population who are eligible to receive the vaccination (over 12 years).

**Malcom Campbell, Mayor**

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## COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

The Community Grant Scheme is a Council fund to enhance the well-being of Kawerau people by supporting groups and/or services that improve the quality of life of local residents. The Scheme is available to any non-profit group that provides a service, which enhances the quality of life of Kawerau residents. The Community Grants Committee held their meeting to consider applications of Tuesday, 5 October 2021. Below is a list of successful applicants.

- Epilepsy Association of NZ - \$500
- Parkinson's NZ Charitable Trust - \$1,500
- Victim Support Inc - \$1,500
- Alzheimer's Society EBOP - \$2,000
- Kawerau Seniors Forum - \$300
- Kawerau Blue Light Ventures - \$2,000
- Whakatane Kiwi Trust - \$850
- Budget Advisory Service (Rangitaiki) Inc - \$2,000.
- Hospice EBOP - \$2,000
- Kawerau Community Patrol - \$2,500
- Kawerau Golf and Squash Club - \$2,500
- Ktown Community Animal Welfare - \$1,500

**The total funds allocated amounted to \$19,150 excluding GST.**



## IDEAS TO PREPARE YOUR WHĀNAU IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD GETS COVID-19

- Make an emergency contact list
- People who can make isolating easier (i.e., dropping off food)
- Our care and support plans (e.g. for children, dependents)
- How will you let people know you're isolating
- Household instructions (e.g. how to take care of pets and plants, household maintenance such as paying bills)

### Wellness Kit:

Mask, Rubbish Bags, Gloves, Cleaning products, Tissues, Hand Sanitiser

### Some ideas to look after your mental wellbeing:

- Stay connected with friends and Whānau by phone, Facetime/Skype/Zoom and text messaging
- Acknowledge your feelings – it's normal to feel anxious or stressed
- Stick to routines where possible
- Limit your time online

Free support is available if you need extra support via local providers and also from texting or phoning 1737 anytime 7 days a week.



## KAWERAU CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK CANCELLED FOR 2021

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, Kawerau District Council has made the decision to cancel its flagship community event the 2021 Kawerau Christmas in the Park and Santa Parade will not be possible.

Kawerau District Council acting economic and community development manager, Lee Barton explains, "The annual festive celebration in Kawerau is well loved by our community and we have held out for as long as we possibly can to make this sad decision.

"The way the pandemic is unfolding, the ongoing restrictions on gatherings at our current Alert Level 2 status makes delivery of this event in December impossible.

Kawerau District Council will now start to investigate what will be possible in 2022 within the new traffic light framework.

## COVID-19 TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM

At 11:59 PM on Thursday 2 December, Kawerau will transition from the Alert Level system and move into the COVID-19 Traffic Light system as a red zone. Red has been put in place by government to best protect the community from COVID-19. Council will keep residents updated with more details on what red means for the district.

## VACCINATION CALENDAR

Wednesday 1/12  
Town Hall  
9:00AM - 7:00PM

Thursday 2/12  
Cobham Drive cul-de-sac  
9:30AM - 3:00PM

Friday 3/12  
Pat Baker Reserve, River Rd  
9.00am - 3.00pm

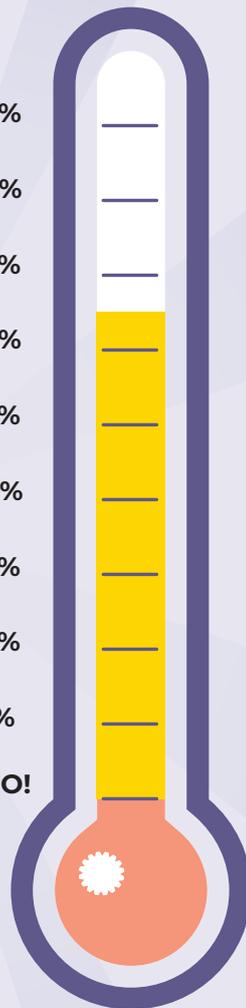
Saturday 4/12  
Town Hall  
9:00AM - 7:00PM

Saturday 4/12  
Cobham Drive cul-de-sac  
9:30AM - 3:00PM

Sunday 5/12  
Firmin Reserve  
11:00AM - 4:00PM

Thursday 2/12  
Ron Hardie Rec Centre  
COVID-19 drive-through testing station  
10:00AM - 4:00PM

90%  
80%  
70%  
60%  
50%  
40%  
30%  
20%  
10%  
GO!



KAWERAU  
VAX RATES  
SHOT KAWERAU!

## Three Waters



Kawerau District Council, along with a number of others, are co-signing a letter requesting to meet urgently with the Prime Minister about the Three Waters Reform. We have heard your feedback and will progress all avenues to protect and enhance our community's water assets.

Council is also planning to sign a memorandum of understanding being developed by Councils who wish to seek alternative solutions to the Three Waters Reform proposed by the government.

Council has discussed and agreed to sign this MOU which pledges some funding towards the development of alternative solutions.