



TAWA TALK

October 2021

Welcome to the latest updates from the Tawa Business Group. In this issue:

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Tawa Business Group Update

Isn't it wonderful to be out of the level 3 and 4 lockdowns and to see the sun shining again?

The past two months have been difficult for some of our businesses, and we have been reaching out to many of you to see how you have fared. This issue of Tawa Talk has a brief update from the Covid-19 survey that we ran last month – thank you to those that responded.

We have been working hard to coordinate various networking events that you can attend to reconnect with other business owners and landlords, working within the constrictions that level 2 allows. Before the end of the year, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting, with a great opportunity to meet for drinks afterwards; a business breakfast with Nick Leggett, CEO of Transporting New Zealand; and a Christmas networking event.

Please support us so we can help support you.

Tawa Business Group AGM

You should have received an invitation to our Annual General Meeting, which will be held on

Thursday 28 October from 5:30pm at the Tawa Community Centre

Please let Bernadette know via info@tawabusiness.co.nz if you can join us.

For those of you that are unable to join us, your voice can still be included by completing the [proxy vote form](#). Please return this by 5pm on Wednesday 20 October to Bernadette (either in person to 220B Main Road or via a scanned signed copy to info@tawabusiness.co.nz) and indicate which executive member you would like to vote on your behalf.

We are always looking for new members to join our Executive Board. If you have a few hours each month and would like to be involved in developing projects and services that benefit the Tawa business community, please give Bernadette a call on 21 971 937 to discuss further. A nomination form to apply can be found [here](#).

Once the AGM has finished, we will relocate to The Borough for refreshments.

Project Updates

Website

We have recently updated the website to include a news section. This has articles with all the information that you need for our upcoming events: [News \(tawabusiness.co.nz\)](#)

Recently, Bernadette received training on updating the website and is keen to practise her new skills. Are your details correct on the Business Directory page on our website www.tawabusiness.co.nz/business-directory? We want to ensure we have the correct contact and address details, that your opening hours are accurate, that the images are relevant and that we have you listed under the right categories. Please let us know at info@tawabusiness.co.nz if you would like any changes to be made.

Security Cameras

In mid-September one of the CCTV cameras installed between the Plaza and the library on Main Road was replaced with a PTZ (pan tilt zoom) camera, which is operated and monitored by Wellington City Council (WCC). The old camera will be re-commissioned in Grasslees park in the near future.

The images below show the difference in coverage. Each colour represents a different camera, and you can clearly see the improved coverage with the new PTZ camera in red.

BEFORE



AFTER



Our work is not finished yet. We are continuing to liaise with WCC to install cameras at each end of Tawa and are delighted to say that they have agreed to fully fund this project. After this, our next project will be to install CCTV in the Plaza area.

Transport and Infrastructure

Parking has become such a hot topic this month that it has an entire article dedicated to it. Check out page 10 to find out about the two new parking proposals.

One project has been completed. At the end of September, two ten-minute parking spaces have been installed outside Nada Bakery so that you can pop in quickly to buy your first-class pies and other tasty treats.



Destination Tawa

After a short delay due to the lockdown, we were able to distribute the Spring discount voucher to over 28,000 residents from Kaiwharawhara to Pukerua Bay.



These vouchers are valid for residents from September through to the end of November. We look forward to hearing how successful they will be from the twenty-six businesses who advertised within the flyer.

If you would like a bundle of flyers to offer to your clients and customers, please give Bernadette a call on 021 971 937 or pop into 220B Main Road to pick a few.

Work on the Christmas/Summer edition will commence soon. Watch out for an email invitation to advertise in the next edition and help encourage us all to shop local and love local.

Remember that the cost of the flyer will be fully covered by the Tawa Business Group.

If you have not been involved in this before, now is your chance. There are many different ways that you can create offers for your customers or clients. For example:

- Buy one get one half price
- Spend \$xx.xx and get xx% off your purchase
- Buy a particular item and get another item free
- A discounted price of \$xx.xx on a particular service

There is also a limited number of spaces for other adverts, if you have a business that does not quite fit within these examples but you would still like to be involved in the scheme.

Email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz for further information or to be included in the next edition.



Plaza Signage



Some of you may have noticed that the tree in front of the Plaza signage has been removed. It had grown so big that drivers passing by were unable to see the signs to the Plaza. We have already received positive comments about how much better this looks as you are driving through Tawa.

Events

Rotary Pride in Work Awards Dinner on Tuesday 19 October

Tawa Business Group is supporting the Pride in Work Awards initiative. The presentation dinner is open for business owners who have nominated an employee for a Pride in Work Award. For more information, please email Pat Waite at pat.waite@outlook.com.

Business Breakfast with Nick Leggett, CEO of Transporting New Zealand on Wednesday 27 October

There is still time to join us for breakfast with Nick Leggett and find out about the transport needs for the Wellington region into the future and how these could shape the growth of our businesses.

Wednesday 27 October
From 7am to 8:30am
The Borough, Main Road, Tawa

A full buffet breakfast is **free** for one member of your business and only \$30 per person for any additional attendees. Subject to the alert levels on the day, there will be an opportunity to network with other business owners whilst hearing about the latest transport developments.

Booking is essential so please email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz before Wednesday 20 October to book a space.

Christmas Party Networking Event



December is always such a busy month, so we are planning to kick-start the festive season with our Christmas networking event in late November.

We have booked the Sprig and Fern for

Thursday 25 November
From 5pm to late

Come and join us for drinks and light refreshments. Please email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz to allow for catering.

Business Breakfast with Karen Fifield, CEO of Wellington Zoo on Wednesday 16 March 2022

Bernadette has been busy during lockdown and has arranged the first Business Breakfast of 2022. Karen Fifield had kindly agreed to join us on Wednesday 16 March to talk about the work she is doing at Wellington Zoo.

Further information will follow early in 2022 but feel free to note it in your diaries now and book with Bernadette.

Future Networking Events

Who would you like to see at one of our Business Breakfasts? Do you have a favourite public speaker that other business owners would be interested in hearing from? What other networking events would you like us to organise? Please let Bernadette know at info@tawabusiness.co.nz



Upcoming Events

The following events are coming up:

- Tawa Christmas Parade - Saturday 4 December 2021 (from 2.00pm). See page 10 for further details.

New Businesses in Tawa

It has been a difficult couple of months for existing businesses, so it is no surprise that we have not that many new businesses opening their doors since our last newsletter.

Domino's Pizza

After many setbacks and then the Covid lockdown, Stephan and his team finally served their first customers on Monday 4 October. Domino's Pizza are open from 11am to 11pm, seven days a week from their premises at 24 Main Road, Tawa.

Their website is: www.dominos.co.nz

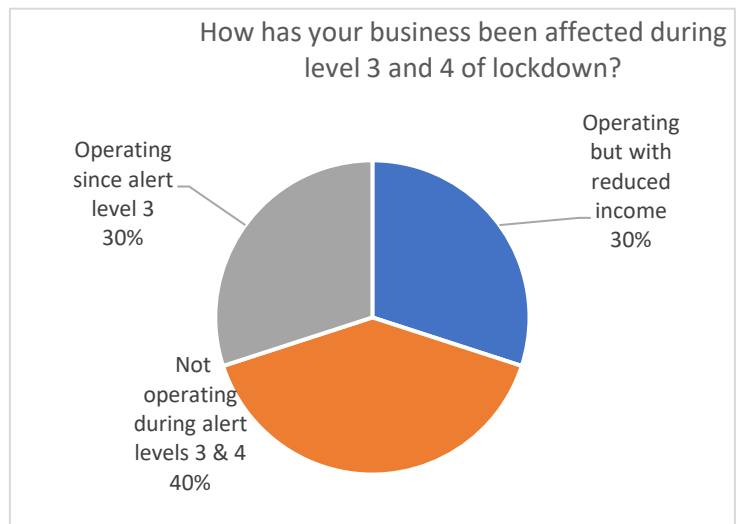


Covid Survey Results

The analogy of "same storm but different boats" goes back to the earlier Covid days but is still holds true doing this lockdown. We may have all been through the same storm but many of us were in very different vessels with some struggling to stay afloat.

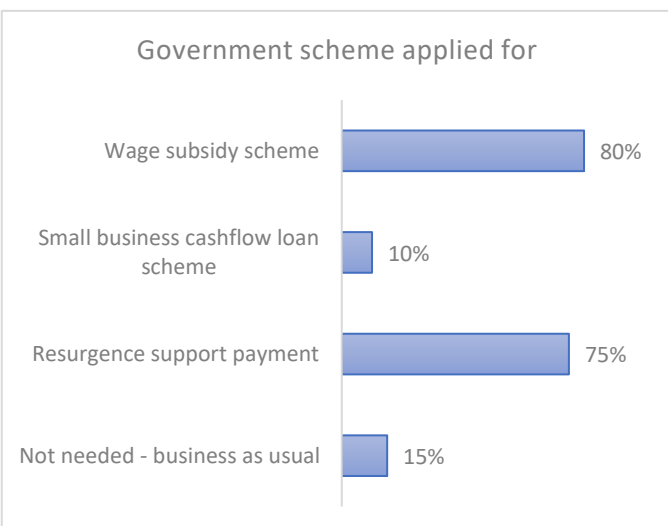
A meeting with Greg O'Connor MP and Councillor Malcolm Sparrow in early September prompted the Tawa Business Group to connect with business owners through a short survey. We would like to thank those that responded. Here is a brief synopsis of the results:

Respondents were split fairly evenly between those that were open throughout (30%), those that only opened in alert level 3 (30%) and those that were not operating during levels 3 and 4 (40%).



Eighty percent of respondents had or were in the process of claiming for the wage subsidy scheme and 75% for the resurgence support payment. Only 15% said that financial government support was not needed.

Business owners that found it easier than the previous lockdown in 2020, cited having processes and procedures already in place from last year that enabled them to quickly adapt and continue to

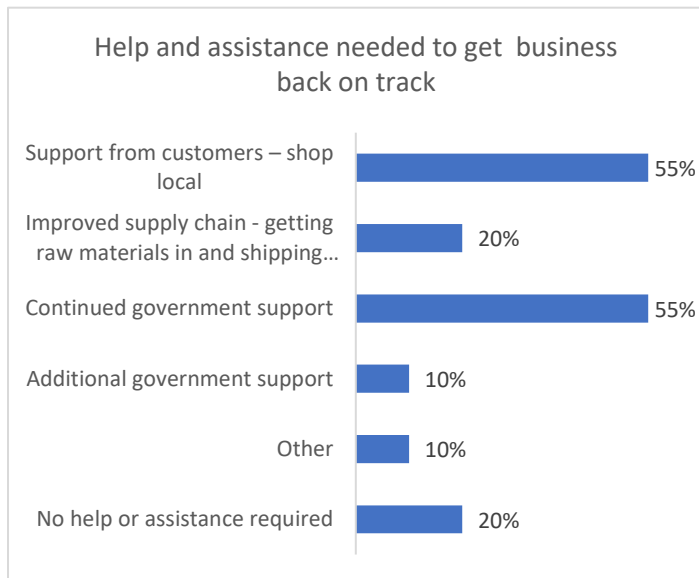
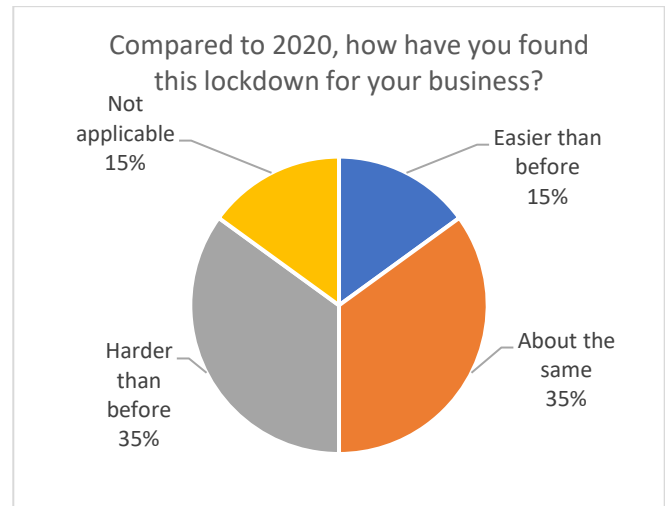


work under a level 4 lockdown. They also said that being well-stocked with products or having plenty of available work enabled them to continue during levels 3 and 4.

All of the businesses that said that they needed no help or assistance said that the lockdown felt the same as in 2020.

Those business owners that found it harder said the lockdown was so sudden that they did not have time to prepare, and a number said that they had not fully recovered from the previous lockdown.

There is a definite feeling that customers are not supporting local and are hesitant to enter retail shops and fitness centres whilst in level 2.



Business owners are going to need a mixture of measures to help them get back on track to pre-lockdown levels. Encouraging support from customers and continued government support were the most popular strategies. Other measures included help with covering rent payments.



Staff retention and procurement was a concern for one business owner who said that a shortage of skilled workers in many trades was exacerbated by uncertainty over working visas and processing to residency visas.

Another commented that frustration levels were higher, more people were having issues with poor mental health and lack of motivation.

Financial issues around the resurgence support payment meant that if anything was out of alignment then the IRD would not pay. On top of this, one respondent said that it was virtually impossible to contact the IRD as they did not seem to be answering calls.

We will be discussing our findings with MPs and councillors over the coming weeks and will report back in our next newsletter. In the meantime, please remember as a business owner you can also support other local business owners.

Spring into Tawa - Cancelled

From the Spring into Tawa team:

“We are sad to announce that Spring into Tawa 2021, due to be held on Saturday 30 October, has been cancelled, due to ongoing uncertainty related to Covid-19.

With no certainty of when Wellington will return to Level 1, and in fact what Level 1 may look like in the future, we cannot carry-on planning to hold this event. To say we are devastated would be an understatement – we are devastated for our community, our stallholders, our entertainers, our sponsors and everyone who looks forward to Spring into Tawa each year.

We thank all our stallholders, entertainers, supporters, sponsors and friends for their patience as we’ve worked through this decision process. We pushed our decision out to this week hoping it would give us a chance to go ahead. However, the time has come to make a call and cancel the event.

And as a silver lining for those as devastated as us tonight, we’ve confirmed Saturday 29 October as the date for Spring into Tawa 2022. Lock it in now – we can’t wait to bring Spring into Tawa back to you in 2022.”



Our Submission to the Consultation on Trading and Events in Public Places

Tawa Business Group submitted a response, on behalf of the business community, to Wellington City Council on the consultation on Trading and Events in Public Places in mid-August. Please email Bernadette if you would like a copy of the submission.

The consultation looked at a number of areas that may affect your business and below is a brief reminder of a couple of the existing rules.

Sandwich Boards – the policy requires that sandwich boards are approved and an annual renewal registration fee of \$85 is paid (new applications are \$105). Please ensure that your sandwich board correctly displays the licence sticker. Please check here for the current rules around sandwich boards: www.wellington.govt.nz/certificates-and-licences/signs-and-posters/rules-about-signs-and-posters

Outdoor Dining – the policy requires that you pay an annual lease fee for outside dining and an additional fee for a smoking lease. www.wellington.govt.nz/certificates-and-licences/footpaths/outdoor-seating

Creative Hoardings Programme

Wellington City Council is launching a pilot Creative Hoardings programme in September. The programme has been designed to enliven building sites and celebrate creativity across the city. Creative Hoardings present opportunities for the Council, Artists and Property Developers to contribute to the revitalisation of our city. Hoardings are temporary safety walls that surround construction sites.

To initiate the programme WCC has commissioned four local artists, Gabby O’Connor, Ariki Brightwell, Ruth Thomas-Edmond, Telly Tuita, and the Council’s own Creative and Brand team to develop designs for a hoarding. Together these artworks form the



Creative Hoarding Library and can be downloaded for free in preparation for printing and installing on hoardings.

WCC are wanting would property developers to get involved in this project. A project page has been created about the programme, including a library of the Creative Hoarding designs which is accessible from the Ngā Toi Arts section of the Council’s website: wellington.govt.nz/hoardings

Celebrating our Successes – el Porteño and 100,000 Famous Cheese Scones

Courtesy of the Independent Herald, we spotted that el Porteño have celebrated baking their one hundred thousandth cheese scone.

Over the past eight years, Lisandro Walfisch has brought plenty of Argentinian charm and character to the el Porteño café with this year celebrating the baking of over 100,000 of their famous cheese scones.

When asked, Lisandro said, “It has been an amazing achievement for us reaching such a milestone, specially being a small café tucked away in Tawa. One of the things that made us proud is seeing all our regulars coming back again and again. Our mission has always been to create a space where the community can get together and enjoy great coffee and food with a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.”

The Covid lockdown has been hard for the café with no money coming in for several weeks, but they had a great response from loyal customers once they re-opened and have been consistently busy again.



When asked what their secret for success was, Lisandro said, “Not sure if there is the one secret, I have been in the hospitality industry for over 20 years now and one of my key focuses is consistency: having systems in place for all staff, which are easy to follow, means that they can focus on producing great products, taking orders efficiently and doesn’t matter at what time you come in your coffee and treats will be exactly the same”.

You can beat the queue and text in your order on 022 432 4155.

An advertisement for el Porteño Cafe. At the top, it says 'el Porteño Cafe' in a stylized font, followed by 'Celebrating over 100,000 of our Famous Cheese Scones!'. Below this is a photograph of a hand holding a coffee cup with a latte art heart, next to a plate of cheese scones. Underneath the photo is the Argentine flag and the text 'A taste of Argentina'. At the bottom, it says 'Open 7 days | 022 432 4155' and '139A Main Road, Tawa (next to Mexted Motors)'.

Covid Support and Assistance for Businesses

Many of you may already have the Unite against Covid-19 website saved as a favourite on your phone or laptop but if not, this website has all the information that you need to know as we move through the alert levels. The site even allows for you to book your Covid-19 vaccinations.

This National Day of Action for COVID vaccination has been announced for **Saturday 16th October**. The New Zealand Government is aiming for a 90% vaccination rate and is encouraging everyone who has not been fully vaccinated to seek out their closest vaccine site or centre for their first or second jab.

For those business owners that have struggled financially during lockdown and during alert level 2, there is financial support available. Please click [here](#) to find out more.

You can also use this site to update your [QR codes and other flyers](#) that you may wish to display on your premises.



Defibrillators in Tawa

Tawa Residents Association's Tony Hassed has been working on bringing together a comprehensive list of the Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in the Tawa area. Many of these are local businesses. Please have a look over the list and let Bernadette know if there are any missing or if any details need to change. Tony is aiming to have this information available to Tawa residents shortly.

AED LOCATIONS IN TAWA



● ● ● = AED sites that may be available 24/7.

Please note that most of the sites below are available during business hours only.

This information is taken from the AED app. We cannot guarantee its accuracy. If you know of anything that needs amending, please let us know at info@tawalink.com

Tawa Medical Centre

1 Rewa Terrace Tel 232 7193

Unichem Simon's Pharmacy

189 Main Road Tel 232 8130

Power System Consultants – Level 2

210 Main Road Tel 232 7680

24/7 Fitness

35 Oxford Street Tel 234 8885

Tawa Fire Station

16 Lyndhurst Road Phone 111

Connetics Limited

Unit 6, 10 Surrey Street Tel 570 5711

Mervyn Kemp Library

158 Main Road Tel 232 1690

Tawa Community Centre

5 Cambridge Street, Tawa Tel 232 1682

Tawa Baptist Church ● ● ●

229 Main Road – house at left
Phone 111 for combination

Tawa Fitness Centre

1 Lincoln Ave Tel 232 8500

Tawa Bowling Club

13 Davies Street Tel 232 6045

Tawa RSA Bowling Club ● ● ●

89 Oxford Street
Porch at front of building
Phone 111 for combination

Tawa Pool

23 Davies Street Tel 232 7041

Tawa Intermediate School

1a Ranui Terrace Tel 232 5201

Tawa College

38 Duncan Street Tel 232 8184

Linden Medical Centre

49 Hinau Street Tel 232 8376

Ngahauranga Te Kohanga Reo

55 Victory Cres Tel 232 8424

Holyoake Industries

89 Main Road Tel 232 2722
Outside door of factory changing rooms

Aquaheat

92 Main Road Tel 232 5179

Tawa AFC – Redwood Pavilion ● ● ●

Under verandah outside changing
rooms, southern end of Redwood Park
Phone 111 for combination

Heavenly Fitness

1 Achilles Close Tel 027 244 5185

Tawa Squash Club

67 Main Road Tel 232 8200

Wellington North Badminton

Next to Taylor Park in Tawa Street

Outlet City

24 Main Road Tel 232 0226

Z Tawa

18 Main Road Tel 232 8281

Countdown Tawa

Orange AED Station by exit
5 William Earp Place

Countdown Warehouse eStore ● ● ●

Available 24/7, closed public holidays
14 Jamaica Drive, Grenada North
Tel 232 0376 Ext 20

Christmas Parade



Assuming we are in alert level 1 again, the Christmas Parade will be on Saturday 4 December. The Tawa Lions are looking for businesses to get involved either by taking part in the parade with a float or by donating money for signage on one of the four Lions floats and /or the Santa float.

Donations towards the cost of the parade would be greatly appreciated. Any excess funds will be donated to the Children’s Hospital Playscape area. For further details please contact Graham Froud on 022 432 4347 or email him at thefrouds@gmail.com.

The after party will be held in the Plaza where they will be a BBQ and live music, including community-led Christmas carols.

Parking Proposals – we want your views

There are currently two parking/loading proposals that we are working on with WCC on. One around creating loading zones for trucks and delivery vans around 214 to 220 Main Road and the other looking to create two 2-hour parking spaces for customers on the street around 82 Main Road. We are still gathering views so if you have not responded, please let Bernadette know your thoughts at info@tawabusiness.co.nz.

Loading zones around 214 to 220 Main Road

This has been in the pipeline for some time and WCC recently gave Tawa Business Group a proposal and two options. After speaking with some local business owners, we can see that the proposal to remove two parking spaces and make a throughfare access is not workable as it would cross private land and still be difficult for trucks to use the service lane to enter the area behind to unload. This would probably not solve the issue of trucks and vans stopping to pick up a quick lunch.

We are proposing that both option 1, removing the tree and two parking spaces to create a loading zone AND creating two parking spaces and a loading zone at option 2 would cater for most requirements and not lose any valuable car parking spaces.



Please either email Bernadette or pop into the office at 220B Main Road to discuss further or look over a larger picture of the site.

Two 2-hour parking spaces around 82 Main Road

A recent request has been submitted to WCC with regard to changing two of the unmarked parking spaces along Main Road near 82 to two-hour parking. This is an initial consultation with nearby business owners and Bernadette is still collating feedback from interested parties. If you have not responded or would like to submit your views, please email Bernadette on info@tawabusiness.co.nz.

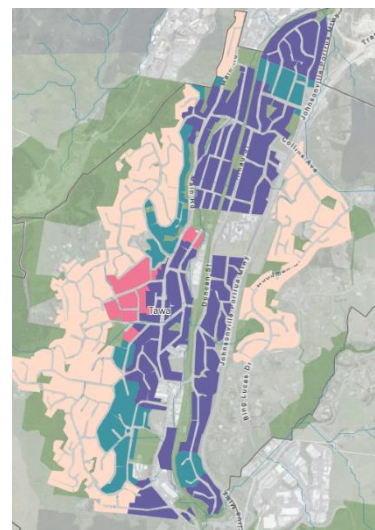
Spatial Plan

The Spatial Plan has been finalised. It is the “blueprint” for Wellington City that sets out a plan of action of where and how it will grow and develop over the next thirty years. The full plan is now online and interactive: [Spatial Plan \(wellington.govt.nz\)](https://www.wellington.govt.nz/spatial-plan)

The Tawa Business Group Executive Team are increasingly interested in what this means for Tawa and our business community. We are working with the Community Board and the Residents Association to ensure that opportunities for growth will be for the benefit of us all.

Wellington City Council is working on dates for community drop-ins that will allow for residents and business owners to view and discuss the spatial plan. Once we have these dates, we will let you know.

[Note: The purple areas on the map indicate where buildings of six storeys or more will be permissible. These are in areas that are a 10-minute walk from train stations and town centres.]



Malcolm Sparrow Resigns

Tawa Business Group has enjoyed collaborating with Malcolm Sparrow over our different newsletters and we often share stories. This article has been taken from Tawa News and forms his resignation letter:



“I will be resigning my role as a councillor with effect from 5pm on Monday 11 October. I very much regret having to do so at this time, but a recent health scare has driven me to make my health a top priority.

This term in office has been a challenging and disappointing one and I have been weighing up my options for a considerable time. A medical event earlier this week confirmed for me that I needed to remove the stress from my life in the interest of my health. I am also concerned that I am no longer able to continue making as effective a contribution as I believe I made in my first two terms as councillor.

Stepping down at this stage also means that Council will not be forced to hold an expensive by-election.

It has been a pleasure serving the community in this role and I am immensely grateful for having had the opportunity over the past eight years. For those who have backed me along the way, I am sorry to not see things through. For my family and myself it is the right decision.”

In addition to his letter, Malcolm also added this in Tawa News:

“I came into this term knowing it would be my last but intending to do my best for three more years. Unfortunately it hasn’t worked out in the way I had hoped!

As a city councillor, serving the local community has been my strongest point and given me the most satisfaction. Thank you again for providing me with that opportunity.

Having made this difficult decision, retirement now beckons. Karen and I have a new home to move to (just up the road, so to speak). I intend to take it easy for a while, travel a little within NZ, and we’ll see what happens from there.

I’ll conclude by saying I have had 25 great years in Tawa, and will always cherish my connection with this wonderful place.”

Useful Helpline Contact Numbers

As a result of a number of enquiries to NZ Police, our Community Liaison Officer, Constable Sarah Steed, pulled together a list of service organisations in NZ who are there to support people through challenging times:

If it's an emergency

Call 111 immediately in an emergency. (Police non-emergency number – 105)

Healthline

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, call the dedicated COVID-19 Healthline:

- for free on 0800 358 5453
- on +64 9 358 5453 if you have an international SIM.

For any other health concerns, call the general Healthline number on 0800 611 116.

Mental wellbeing & abuse helplines

These are some of the helplines available that offer support, information and help.

- **1737, need to talk?** - For support with anxiety, distress or mental wellbeing, call or text 1737 to talk with a trained counsellor for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **Youthline**— call 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email talk@youthline.co.nz
- **Kidslines**—call 0800 54 37 54 (0800 KIDSLINE) for young people up to 18 years of age.
- **Skylight** —call 0800 299 100 helping children, young people and their families and whānau through tough times of change, loss, trauma and grief
- **Lifeline** —0800 543 354 (0800 LIFELINE) or free text 4357 (HELP)
- **Suicide Crisis Helpline** —0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO)
- **Depression and Anxiety Helpline** —0800 111 757 or free text 4202 to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions.
- **Anxiety phone line** —0800 269 4389 (0800 ANXIETY)
- **Family Services 211 Helpline** 0800 211 211— for help finding, and direct transfer to, community-based health and social support services in your area
- **OUTline NZ**— call 0800 688 5463 for confidential telephone support for sexuality or gender identity issues
- **Women's Refuge** by calling 0800 743 843 (0800 REFUGE) to be linked up with an advocate in your area
- **Elder Abuse Helpline** — call 0800 32 668 65 (0800 EA NOT OK). 24-hour service answered by registered nurses who can connect to local elder abuse specialist providers
- **Hey Bro** helpline— call 0800 HeyBro (0800 439 276). 24/7 help for men who feel they're going to harm a loved one or whānau member
- **Oranga Tamariki** —call 0508 325 459 (0508 FAMILY) or email contact@ot.govt.nz for concerns about children and young people

NZ COVID Tracer app

If you have questions or feedback about the NZ COVID Tracer app:

- call 0800 800 606
- email help@covidtracer.min.health.nz

Managed isolation and quarantine

If you have questions about managed isolation and quarantine, including charges and exemptions:

- call 0800 ISOMIQ (0800 476 647) from within New Zealand
- call +64 4 888 1670 from outside New Zealand or if you're in New Zealand with an international SIM
- email enquiries@miq.govt.nz

Deaf, hearing impaired, Deafblind or speech impaired

If you are deaf, hearing impaired, Deafblind or speech impaired you can use the New Zealand Relay Service to call.