

Report 15.179
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File

Committee Wellington Regional Strategy Committee
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Development Agency (WREDA)

Chair's update for WREDA

Purpose

- 1 To update the Committee on WREDA and to present the outline of WREDA's draft business plan.

Background

- 2 WREDA was established in December from Positively Wellington Tourism, Positively Wellington Venues and Grow Wellington/Creative HQ. Major Events from Wellington City Council (WCC) will join WREDA following the arrival of the new Chief Executive.

Progress to date

- 3 The search for a new CEO is near completion and I will update the Committee at the meeting.
- 4 Until the new CEO is on board each of the component parts of WREDA will continue as they have previously with each of the CEOs reporting through to the Board. The Major Events team of WCC will transfer to WREDA following the arrival of the new CEO.
- 5 The recommendation for the appointment of the tenth director with film experience will shortly be with the Appointments Group/shareholders for consideration.
- 6 The Board of WREDA has met a number of times and now has a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities that are in front of us and the region.
- 7 Staff in WREDA have been kept fully informed of developments and there is an intranet site available for WREDA communications
- 8 Since the last Committee meeting in February I have continued to have a number of meetings with key stakeholders, in particular;
 - WREDA staff town hall meeting
 - NZRU
 - Westpac Stadium
 - NZ Festival

- NZSO
- Royal NZ Ballet
- Sport NZ
- Wairarapa Economic Development Trust
- NZTE
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Various Ministers and Member's of Parliament
- Leader of the Opposition
- WCC staff and Councilors
- GWRC staff and Councilors
- Creative NZ
- Ministry of Culture and Heritage
- Various Wellington business leaders and CEOs
- Weta Digital
- Pukeko Pictures
- Park Road Post Production
- Sir Peter Jackson
- Sir Richard Taylor
- NZ Film
- Grow Wellington Job Expo, Melbourne
- Hurricanes management
- Victoria University
- Massey University
- Weltec
- Whitireia
- Te Papa
- Business Central

I will also be speaking at the Kapiti business breakfast meeting in May

Business Plan

- 9 The management and Board of WREDA have been working on the framework of the 2015/16 business plan. This work has included consideration of the Letter of Expectation approved by the Committee at their previous meeting.
- 10 The presentation today is the first step in completing the business plan and the final Statement of Intent. Any comments/input from the Committee will be considered by the Board at their May meeting with the final Statement of Intent being approved by the Board in June. It is expected that the new Chief Executive will also have some input into the process prior to final approval.
- 11 The plan has been prepared in an environment where the Chief Executive has not yet commenced and with a relatively new Board. As such, this presentation

is very much a work in progress with a lot of work still to be undertaken and I welcome and look forward to the Committee's input into this process.

Communication

12 No communications are necessary

The decision-making process and significance

13 No decision is being sought in this report.

Recommendations

14 *That the Committee:*

1. Receives and notes the contents of the report.

Report prepared by:

Peter Biggs

Chair, WREDA