

TASMAN BAYS HERITAGE TRUST

PURPOSE, MISSION AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose Statement

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.

Mission

The Trust operates as Nelson Provincial Museum, the regional museum of Nelson Tasman. The Museum is a repository of material culture. It presents regional history, natural history, mātauranga Māori and contemporary narratives in stimulating and provocative ways, by making its collection accessible on-site, online and in the community.

- We are a highly valued repeat destination for local visitors;
- We provide exceptional taurima (caring for and entertaining) for all of our audiences, regardless of their culture, language, or abilities;
- We contribute to the activation of the upper Trafalgar Street precinct and the heart of the CBD by fulfilling our building's existing potential, including the use of the roof garden, foyer and adjacent kerbside;
- We honour the Museum's commitment to bi-culturalism, collaborating with mana whenua and tangata whenua iwi across Nelson Tasman to tell their stories in their own words, and facilitating connection to their taonga;
- We actively collect, care for, and preserve objects of regional, national and international significance – both historical and contemporary – and create innovative ways of sharing these with the community;
- We are developing a new, fit-for-purpose Archives, Collection and Research Facility (ARC) to enable us to preserve the treasures of the Regional Heritage Collection for current and future generations;
- We maintain our relevance to our community and stakeholders by responding to current social, cultural, and environmental challenges and opportunities through our educational offerings, public programming, contemporary collecting and exhibition programme;
- We are recognised as a provider of dynamic storytelling and high-quality content with a strong connection to local communities, told through a variety of formats and media including onsite experiences, outreach, and digital channels; and
- We actively collaborate across the region, sharing our knowledge and expertise to support the aspirations of the cultural organisations throughout the Nelson Tasman region.

Values

The following principles underpin decision-making and set the standard for interactions with our communities:

- To celebrate and respect our region's cultural heritage in respect of Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti, along with Nelson Tasman's diverse multi-cultural mix, both past and present, and to show how this contributes to our distinctive regional identity;
- To be innovative, valuing imaginative approaches and creative solutions;
- To be customer focused: to care for our visitors and be responsive to their needs, embodying the principle of manaakitanga (hospitality) and taurima;
- To act professionally, embodying best museum practice within a context of scholarship and the Museums Aotearoa and ICOM (International Council of Museums) Code of Ethics;
- To be relevant to our community and to actively engage with them;
- To care for and value our people – our staff and volunteers – attracting and retaining a creative, skilled, professional and engaged team;
- To be financially sustainable, attracting resources and revenues that will underpin our Purpose, Mission, and related activities;
- To be environmentally sustainable and to model best practice for our communities.

Activities

Nature and scope of activities to be undertaken:

- To manage and operate the Museum for the benefit of the residents of Nelson Tasman and visitors to the region;
- To strengthen, care for, manage, interpret, preserve and make accessible the Museum's Regional Heritage collection for the benefit of iwi, residents and visitors;
- To promote understanding and appreciation of the region's rich cultural heritage and natural environments;
- To develop and maintain partnerships that mutually benefit the Museum, the community, and allied organisations;
- To professionally manage and maintain all of the Trust's assets, including the Regional Heritage Collection; and
- To be a good employer and foster a culture of staff excellence and well-being.