

Annual Report

2015





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Wanaka Wastebusters | Wanaka



The Community Recycling Network

CRN is an organisation representing community enterprises focused on zero waste and education for sustainability.

Key objectives include;

- To speak with a cohesive voice on behalf of community at local, regional and central government levels
- To grow robust relationships with WasteMINZ, the Ministry for the Environment and other key waste minimisation stakeholders
- To foster partnerships between member organisations and local authorities and businesses working towards zero waste
- To provide development support and advice to member organisations particularly in terms of business advice, training, mentoring and market development
- To provide accessible networking opportunities and dissemination of information to all members
- To grow CRN membership

Executive Team

Chairperson

Marty Hoffart
EERST Trust



Executive Members

Cliff Colquhoun
CBEC



Sue Coutts
Wanaka Wastebusters



Karen Driver
Nelson Environment Centre



Rick Thorpe
Xtreme Waste



Rob Roche
Innovative Waste Kaikoura



The year in review

by Marty Hoffart

2015 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present the 2015 annual report to the members of the Community Recycling Network Aotearoa (CRN).

It has been another busy year for CRN and there have certainly been some ups and downs for our members. Perhaps this should be the year of the phoenix, with plucky community businesses determined to rise from the ashes.

Earlier this year, the very well established Mana Recovery, which previously ran Trash Palace in Porirua and employed around 50 people, went into voluntary liquidation. Mana Recovery was hit hard by the loss of a substantial service contract, which made running the organisation uneconomic. There is a bright side to this story; Trash Palace is likely to reopen under the auspices of a new organisation.



Another notable event hit Kaitia's Community, Business & Environment Centre (CBEC) hard. This long-standing community group lost its Northland waste and recycling contract to a competing waste company. Thankfully, CBEC has diverse business activities and operations that are able to continue. However, the organisation will no longer provide the resource recovery services it has provided for the last 25 years.

Central Otago Wastebusters was another well-entrenched organisation that went bust and had to close its doors, in Alexandra. Then, thanks to several months of hard work, planning and expense from Sue Coutts and Wanaka Wastebusters, it was resurrected, though unfortunately not from the ashes. Not long after it reopened, the facility was destroyed by a fire that subsequent media reports labelled as arson.

It has been an enormously trying year for Wanaka Wastebusters, CBEC and some of our other members.

There has been some good news too. Probably the most notable is a successful bid from CRN to become involved with the Auckland's inorganic collection. CRN has been engaged by Auckland Council to manage the redistribution of reusable goods gathered in its annual inorganic collection. This is a really exciting project, and one that CRN is looking forward to sinking its teeth into. Sei Brown stepped down from the CRN board to become manager for the programme.

We have also completed a number of case studies that will hopefully inspire new organisations to spring



up and prosper, as opportunities within the sector grow. The results of these studies are available on the CRN website, which underwent a badly-needed update and is now looking much more fresh, with increased functionality.

Mal Williams from Zero Waste Wales graced our shores this year and made himself available to travel the length of the country visiting various CRN member sites and speaking at different locations. I had the pleasure to hearing Mal speak in Hamilton, at a meeting of the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regional councils. Mal has been a long time advocate of the community sector and has visited New Zealand on a number of occasions.

Our membership base has grown significantly over the past year. We now have more than 60 members, with the vast majority of new members hailing from the Auckland region. This is one of the main reasons we have chosen to host our annual hui in Auckland this year.

During 2015, the Auckland real estate market has been booming and so has resource recovery activity in the city. With Auckland Council's waste management and minimisation plan aspiring to zero waste by 2040, we predict greater opportunities for community organisations working in our field, as the city develops and moves forward down the zero waste road.

The city will need to develop infrastructure to maximise resource recovery. CRN is committed to supporting Auckland Council in the development of a region-wide Resource Recovery Network (RRN), comprising large resource recovery park hubs linked to smaller community recycling centres and drop-off points. We're pleased to see the first of these is now up and running. Waiuku Zero Waste, a joint venture between Xtreme Zero Waste in Raglan and the Waiuku and District Community Workshop Trust, has a five year contract with Auckland Council to manage the Waiuku Community Recycling Centre and this organisation is already achieving some great success in terms of employment and diversion outcomes.

One of our goals over the next 12 months will be to advocate for community organisations wanting to enter the resource recovery sector. For that to happen, we need to develop new training programmes and resources. This is another project that CRN has been working on, with funding from the Auckland Council Waste & Innovation Fund. We are currently developing a series of training resources for organisations that already have great ideas, passion and skilled people but need a greater understanding of opportunities within the resource recovery sector.

I would also like to acknowledge the supportive working relationships we have enjoyed over the past year with Envision NZ, WasteMINZ, Fonterra and Auckland Council. Thanks to the good people in these organisations, as well as the sponsors of our annual hui, CRN can continue to remain a viable and vibrant organisation for its members.

This year, CRN will again operate a trade stand and presence at the 2015 WasteMINZ Conference in Rotorua. We are committed to ensuring our relationship with WasteMINZ continues to be strong. Attending the annual conference and having a regular feature in the WasteMINZ Revolve magazine enables us to communicate with a wider audience.

Innovative Waste Kaikoura | Kaikoura



Your executive (board) has worked hard to keep the right governance structure in place over the past year. Our aim, as always is for CRN and its members to survive in a very competitive sector that is dominated by commercial operators. Your board continues to donate an enormous amount of time behind the scenes, tirelessly providing a voice and opportunities for community recyclers.

We will continue to do what we can to influence the political environment in support of community reuse, recycling and the development of social enterprises. CRN will continue to be a nagging voice in favour of product stewardship, zero waste and producer responsibility. This includes using the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to declare priority products for product stewardship intervention.

Having a focus and a strong network creates cohesion amongst our members, which in turn helps create a distinct sector that is community focused and community driven.

Looking ahead to 2016, the board has some exciting challenges. There is consensus amongst board members that, in order to continue to give value to members and endure as an organisation, we must be relevant and provide leadership. We will continue to develop relationships with local authorities and industry groups, to help build and maintain a strong community sector working towards zero waste.

I could not provide an annual report without our very talented and hard working executive officer, Dorte Wray. She is constantly working to sustain and expand CRN by meeting with and providing advice, guidance and mentoring to new and existing enterprises.

I firmly believe CRN can continue to make a difference for its members by showing leadership and advocacy for the zero waste to landfill concept. The goal needs to be zero. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my fellow board members who willingly give their time and energy to the organisation. Thank you again Sue Coutts, Karen Driver, Cliff Colquhoun, Rick Thorpe and Rob Roche. Lastly, I would like to offer a special thank you to Gary Kelk for his excellent guidance in managing our finances during the past year.

The network exists for its members. Remember to let us know how we can best serve you, your group or your organisation. We will ensure we are communicating with members through our monthly e-newsletter so please get in touch with us if you have something to share.

We're looking forward to seeing you at our Annual CRN Hui hosted this year at Unitec Auckland. Remember to get September 29th, 30th and October 1st into your diary. We welcome your participation and ideas and offer an opportunity to become re-charged and refocused on zero waste. Our theme this year is Back to the Future – Towards a Zero Waste New Zealand.

Nga Mihi Nui
Marty Hoffart
Chairman, Community Recycling Network

Financial Report

Balance Sheet

As of March 2015

Assets

Current Assets

CRN Bank Accounts	\$42,125	
<u>Total Bank Accounts</u>	<u>\$42,125</u>	
Debtors	\$ 1,380	

Total Current Assets \$43,505

Total Assets \$43,505

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Creditors	\$ 6,885	
GST	\$ 103	
Job Balances	\$ 3,871	
Monument Finance Loan	\$ 3,278	
<u>Total Current Liabilities</u>	<u>\$14,137</u>	

Total Liabilities \$14,137

Net Assets \$29,368

Equity

Retained Earnings (excl Prior)	\$ 39,866	
Prior Year's Surplus/Deficit	\$ 12,334	
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	\$ (22,832)	
<u>Total Equity</u>	<u>\$29,368</u>	

Profit & Loss Statement

April 2013 through March 2014

Income		
Membership Contributions	\$ 14,080	
Project Income	\$ 94,905	
Other Income	\$ 11,659	
Total Income		\$120,644
Cost of Sales		\$ -
Gross Profit		\$120,644
Expenses		
Administration Expenses	\$ 44,296	
Financial & Standing Charges	\$ 4,726	
Marketing, Promotion & Network	\$ 4,833	
Executive Running Costs	\$ 544	
Project Expenses	\$ 91,076	
Total Expenses		\$145,476
Operating Profit / (Loss)		\$(24,832)
Other Income	\$11,030	
Net Surplus / (Deficit)		\$(22,832)

Maclaren Park Henderson South | Auckland



Supporters

Thanks to our funders:

Auckland Councils Waste Minimisation and Innovation Fund: Support for Capacity Building Workshop & Site Tours

Thanks to our hui sponsors:



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