

Latest chapter in Kaikohe hub build

Pages keep turning in the story of Te Āta Haere – the project to build the Kaikohe Library and Civic Hub – with the fitting of the roof and exterior cladding underway.

This latest chapter in creating the multi-purpose hub for Far North residents and visitors follows the March completion of the exterior, roof and exterior verandah framing.

The installation of internal services is well underway with the next instalment of this construction story including lining the interior and installing aluminium joinery. Fitting the exterior cladding and construction of the carpark area is also progressing.

The hub will be a place of learning, connection and creativity with a wide range of activities available from library collections, to a creative Maker Space for kids, meeting rooms, a gaming room, a recording booth and a café.

The striking structure, taking shape on the corner of Broadway and Raihara Street, is expected to be transformational for Kaikohe.

A name for the facility will be gifted later this year by local hapū Te Uri-o-Hua, Te Takotoke and Ngāti Kura when the construction project is completed.



Adding the roof and external wall cladding mark a significant milestone in the construction of Kaikohe's new library and civic hub.

Te Āta Haere, the name given by local hapū for the construction of the hub, began in August 2025.

The \$14.6 million project is funded through the council's Long Term Plan 2024–27 and reflects a

long-term investment in Kaikohe's future.

For the full story go to fndc.govt.nz

Funding backs local flavours



Funding brings communities together and supports the economy.

The future of Savour Northland, the annual food and wine festival, was backed by two Far North community boards during their March meetings.

The Northland food and wine festival celebrates the unique flavours, people and places of Te Tai Tokerau by showcasing local producers, hospitality businesses and the rich culture of the region.

Te Hiku Community Board granted \$4000 to Savour Northland for its 2026 festival, and the Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Community Board granted \$15,379 for each of its next two annual festivals (2026 and 2027).

Board decisions have created more positive outcomes for residents and visitors. In April, the Bay of Islands-Whangaroa board granted \$3560 to the Bay of Islands Country Rock Festival, while the Kaikohe-Hokianga board approved \$3000 for a Youth Day event. Te Hiku's board awarded \$13,413 to the Muriwhenua Education and Sports Hub for upgrades.

Policy start date pushed to July



Only parts of the district are subject to development contributions.

Councillors have decided to delay the new Utu Whakawhanake – Development Contributions Policy by one month, following a meeting on 1 April.

Development contributions are charges applied to new developments that create additional demand for infrastructure. The contributions help fund new or upgraded assets, such as roads, water supplies, wastewater, stormwater and community facilities needed to support growth. The funds are reinvested in the same area from where they are collected.

The policy ensures the cost of growth is shared fairly with those creating the demand, rather than falling mainly on existing ratepayers.

The new policy was due to start on 29 May but will now begin from 1 July 2026. This aligns with the start of the financial year and will ensure systems, processes and staff are ready.

Go to the [FNDC website](https://fndc.govt.nz) to find out more.

Council confirms appointments



More than 100 people gathered at the council's HQ for the meeting.

The council will proceed with the appointment of 10 external hapū and iwi members to its Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships, following a robust discussion during an Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 15 April.

The decision confirmed that two representatives from Te Kahu o Taonui, Northland's iwi chairs forum, would be appointed to the committee. Another eight will be appointed from iwi and hapū that have existing memorandums of understanding with the council.

Mane Tahere and Wallace Rivers were confirmed to represent Te Kahu o Taonui at the meeting. The remaining eight representatives will be named if and when iwi and hapū wish to appoint representatives.

Te Kuaka provides leadership and partnership between the council and iwi and hapū across Te Tai Tokerau.

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