



DWC Roadshow in Greymouth

TECHWEEK EVENT SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN

The West Coast is gearing up for Techweek24, a nationwide series of events aimed at showcasing and celebrating innovation from May 20 to May 26.

The week-long event will provide a platform for individuals and organisations to meet, share ideas, and create connections to enhance our future world.

Heath Milne, DWC chief executive, says the West Coast is filled with innovative and entrepreneurially spirited people.

"Techweek presents a great opportunity for the Coast community to engage with technology and innovation, and celebrate the world-class tech that's being created right here on the Coast and across New Zealand."

This year's strategic pillars for Techweek are: tech for the world, sustainability and climate, good health and wellbeing, diversity and talent, Gen AI, and digital safety.

"If you would like to host an event during Techweek24, it's easy to get involved," Milne adds.

Whether you have a cool tech story you would like to share, business innovation to showcase, or would like to run a session to highlight new tech and ways this can be utilised, you are welcome to host an event.

Events can be submitted on-line at www.techweek.co.nz or contact events@dwc.org.nz if you have any questions or would like to talk through your idea.



Rangatahi Day Out, Hokitika

STUDENTS EXPLORE NATURE-BASED CAREERS

Students from Westland High, South Westland Area School, Papa Taiao Earth Care, and Te Hono O Nga Waka and John Paul II gathered at Wadeson Island in Hokitika for an immersive event aimed at exploring nature-based careers.

Throughout the day, Department of Conservation, NZ Landcare Trust, Conservation Volunteers NZ, Predator Free Te Kinga, Kamahi Planning and Developments, MBC, and the West Coast Regional Council facilitated interactive hands-on workshops.

These sessions provided students with environmental education experiences and a deeper understanding of conservation-related skills and the cutting-edge technology utilised by professionals in the field.

The DWC-led event also saw community leaders involved in nature preservation and management on the West Coast join the students for lunch and a korero. They engaged in conversations about their career journeys, offering valuable insights and advice on potential career paths.

"We're thrilled to see the momentum of 'Rangatahi Day Out' grow in our second event, not only does this event strengthen the bond between community and our young leaders, it also lays the foundation for ongoing collaboration towards a sustainable future," said Zak Shaw, DWC Nature Economy Project Lead.

DWC SEEKS FEEDBACK

Development West Coast (DWC) is calling on local businesses to provide feedback on how the organisation can better serve the needs of the region.

As part of its annual survey, DWC aims to gain insights and suggestions from local businesses and stakeholders on how the organisation can improve its services.

DWC's chief executive, Heath Milne, stated that the survey will focus on the organisation's performance over the past year and how it can improve.

"We want to hear candid and constructive feedback from local businesses. This is our fifth year undertaking the survey, and the feedback we have received has been incredibly valuable," Milne said.

The survey will only take a few minutes to complete, but it will help DWC better understand the needs of local businesses and how it can support the region's economic growth. "We are committed to investing in the region and helping local businesses. By completing the survey, you can help us better serve the needs of the West Coast," Milne added.

DWC's annual survey is a crucial opportunity for local businesses to have their voices heard and help shape the organisation's future direction. The survey is open now, and all local businesses are encouraged to participate.

westcoast.co.nz/DWCsurvey

GOVERNANCE TRAINING ON THE COAST

West Coast Governance Programme

DWC is bringing governance training to the West Coast business community once again.

The West Coast Governance Programme, facilitated by Westlake Governance, will commence in June 2024.

The programme will help participants understand the key roles and responsibilities of the board and individual directors.

The series of five one-day workshops is designed for new and aspiring board members, and for those who work directly with a board - whether in a medium-sized business, a national co-operative or a small community organisation, school Board of Trustees, or a local government body.

Over 100 West Coasters have graduated from the programme since 2011.

The programme costs \$3,000 (+GST). Please contact DWC at events@dwc.org.nz to see if you may be eligible for the RBP Capability Fund or to discuss payment plan options.

westcoast.co.nz/governance



Workshop in Karamea

Community Governance Workshops

DWC has also been hosting free community governance training across the region.

One-day introductory community governance workshops have been held in Karamea, Reefton, and Hokitika, with upcoming workshops in Greymouth, Westport (fully booked), and Franz Josef.

These workshops facilitated by Richard Westlake of Westlake Governance are designed for not-for-profit and community organisations.

Normally the workshop would cost around \$1,000 per person, however recognising the financial restraints on community groups this training has been made free.

Spaces are limited to 20 in each location, so ensure you apply now.

westcoast.co.nz/businessesevents