

INTRODUCING EVIE REAY – OUR 2018 RANGATAHI

**TO APPLY
FOR THE 2019
PROGRAMME**
please contact Amy
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Applications close on
3 January 2019.

Last year, local resident Evie Reay was selected to take part in the nationwide Tuia Programme as our district's Rangatahi (young person) for 2018.

The aim of the programme is to encourage and enhance leadership skills of young Māori throughout New Zealand. To do this, Rangatahi are paired with local mayors for at least one year to receive monthly one-on-one mentoring and also receive leadership training with other Rangatahi at a number of leadership development wānanga throughout the year. Each wānanga runs for 3-4 days and focusses on different aspects to engage with and help the community.

Over the last 11 months Evie has been mentored by Mayor Jim Boulton while continuing her role in the Council's Wanaka Parking and Animal Control team.

We interviewed Evie to find out a little about her experience and to also get some pointers for anyone interested in applying for the Tuia programme in the future.

EVIE, TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF.

I was born in Nelson and when I was four, my family decided to move to Arrowtown. We lived there for five years and during this time I learnt how to ski.

Skiing was my passion and when I was 17, I decided to pursue this passion so I moved to Wanaka and became a ski instructor. But after around three seasons I wanted a change.

I applied for a job at QLDC and during my time here I have tried to help build relationships within our community and make some good changes.

WHAT LED YOU TO APPLY FOR THE TUIA PROGRAMME?

My bosses actually nominated me for the spot on the Tuia Programme 2018! At first I was a bit hesitant as I like to keep to myself and this was a huge stepping stone for me and my confidence but I have no regrets whatsoever for doing Tuia.

HOW DID YOU FIT IT IN WITH YOUR OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES?

Fitting it in with my other responsibilities was pretty easy as Tuia was never a chore for me. I loved it right from when I stepped off that first plane in Hamilton - everyone was so welcoming and I felt right at home.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE HIGHLIGHTS FROM BEING INVOLVED WITH THE PROGRAMME?

1. Meeting everyone that has been involved with Tuia - all of the other Rangatahi and people that have been involved in previous years.
2. Finding my passion for learning Te Reo Māori – Tuia has made to not only want to learn Te Reo but to also see how far I can go.
3. My meetings with Mayor Jim Boulton and also helping out with Central Lake Polyfest 2018 and Citizenship ceremonies.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO OTHER RANGATAHI WHO ARE CONSIDERING APPLYING?

Absolutely do it!

It was amazing and has been life changing for me - the way I look at the world, the things that I want to help out with.

Tuia is hard to explain (everyone that has been on Tuia will say the same) but it helps build you as a person and helps push you to do things that are way out of your comfort zone.

Tuia has made me a much more confident speaker in front of people, my peers, and it has made me be strong in what I believe in. I want to push the passion for Te Reo and use it to make good changes for our youth. Tuia will forever be my favourite part of 2018.

To find out more about Tuia please visit:

[www.mayorstafforjobs.co.nz/home/our-work/
tuia-and-mtj-rangatahi](http://www.mayorstafforjobs.co.nz/home/our-work/tuia-and-mtj-rangatahi)



Evie Reay with Mayor Jim Boulton at the Queenstown Lakes District's largest citizenship ceremony to date - held on Friday 23 November 2018 with 82 brand new kiwis.