

Southern Lakes Business Response Group

**COVID-19 – Update 30 – 23/07/2020 – 4.00pm**

*Here’s the latest update from the* ***Southern Lakes Business Response & Recovery team***

This week's newsletter focuses on resources for your business, funding opportunities for local events, and ways for you to engage with QLDC to help drive change and create meaningful solutions for some of the current challenges we face as a community.

As well as details on how to continue to keep your customers and staff safe by providing and displaying the official QR codes for the NZ COVID Tracer mobile app.

Our next group update will be 6 August, in the meantime, all updates will be posted on the Chambers of Commerce Facebook pages and through the individual organisation's regular communications.

**All Government releases and updates on funding and support** [**can be found here.**](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/releases)

**All QLDC announcements and updates** [**can be found here**](https://www.qldc.govt.nz/your-council/news)

**What’s new?**

**Help Keep New Zealand Safe by contact tracing**

New Zealand businesses and organisations can help keep New Zealand safe by taking a few minutes to get the official Ministry of Health QR code. It’s now easy to get your official QR code. There’s a self-service webform, and if you have a large number of premises you can complete a simple template instead. The official QR codes help your customers and staff keep track of where they’ve been with the NZ COVID where they’ve been with the NZ COVID Tracer mobile app.

* Make sure to display your QR code poster on the door of your premises or in another prominent location at the entrance.
* Place it between 1 and 1.5 metres from the ground so app users can scan it easily.

Get your QR code now by visiting <https://qrform.tracing.covid19.govt.nz/>or by following the links on the Ministry of Health’s website [health.govt.nz](https://www.health.govt.nz/)

**Torokiki** is a community driven ideas platform that has emerged out of the QLDC Recovery work following the impacts of COVID-19 and its effect on our District. Torokiki is one of the main recovery initiatives and is here to enable you, our community to help shape the future through your ideas. It’s not only about your own ideas however it is also about helping shape and support ideas that have been submitted by other people from across our District and beyond.

For more information click [HERE](https://www.qldc.govt.nz/recovery/torokiki-let-s-grow-ideas) or head to [torokiki.hunchbuzz.com](http://torokiki.hunchbuzz.com) to create a user profile and get started.

**Tourism Industry Aotearoa** has unveiled their Tourism Election 2020 Action Plan which outlines priority action for the incoming Government to revive and revitalise the tourism industry. TIA is using the Tourism Election 2020 Action Plan to highlight the importance of tourism to all MPs and candidates in the run-up to the General Election on 19 September. View TIA’s Tourism Election Action Plan [**here.**](https://tia.org.nz/advocacy/tia-projects/tia-election-2020-action-plan)

**Support for small to medium tourism businesses**

Tourism Minister Kelvin Davis has announced a $10 million investment through the Tourism Transitions Programme will support up to 3,000 small and medium tourism businesses impacted by COVID-19 to get expert advice.

Funding will be provided to the Regional Business Partners (RBP) network which will in turn link businesses to professional advice, at no cost. Eligible businesses will get up to $5,000 worth of advice and expertise to support business continuity. Read the full release [HERE](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/expanding-transitions-support-thousands-more-tourism-smes).

Please note that businesses who have already accessed Tourism Transitions funding through Qualmark will not be eligible for further Tourism Transitions funding. They may however be eligible for COVID-19 Advisory funding support. By registering with the RBP, you will be able to speak with a Growth Advisor and find out what support you are eligible for. Please note that there is a pipeline of 600 businesses who have registered and are yet to receive support. The RBP are however scaling up their team and will be in contact as soon as they can.

**Support for Otago businesses through the Regional Business Partner Network**

Central government has announced a further $40 million of COVID-19 Advisory funding for the Regional Business Partner Network. Read more [HERE.](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/more-support-rolls-out-smes)

The areas businesses can access Covid-19 Business advisory support include:

o HR & Employee Relations

o Health and Wellness

o Business Continuity Planning

o Finance and Cashflow Management

o Marketing, Business and digital enablement strategy

o Other specialist advisory services to support businesses respond to COVID-19 can/will be added as required

The funding will be rolled out over the next three months and we encourage you to stay in touch with your business growth manager, or if you're not already, make sure you're registered with the RBPN. **Register** [**HERE**](https://app.regionalbusinesspartners.co.nz/Business/SelfRegister)

**Air New Zealand credit tool**

Air New Zealand’s online credit tool is proving helpful with customers already redeeming $1.36 million in credit.

The online tool went live this week and allows customers who hold credit directly with the airline to manage their credit online.

Air New Zealand Chief Commercial and Customer Officer Cam Wallace says it’s been promising to see such a great response after just 24 hours of the tool being live.

“We’re thrilled to see so many customers being able to use their credit and book flights online. So far, popular destinations have been Queenstown, Auckland and Christchurch.

Air New Zealand has extended the period for using credits – customers now have until 31 December 2021 to book using their credit and 12 months after booking to travel.

Over the coming weeks, the airline will be working to evolve its credit tool to improve its self-service capability and to increase the number of customers who can use it.

**Health and Welfare**

Southern DHB, together with WellSouth and our other partner agencies, are continuing to progress the planning of managed quarantine and isolation facilities in the Southern district.

Invercargill and Queenstown have been ruled out as isolation locations, while Dunedin is being looked at for two or three isolation facilities.

**Staff Expressions of Interest sought**

Expressions of Interest are being sought from workers in the health system, who would be willing to fill roles working in the managed isolation and quarantine facilities. Managed isolation and quarantine facilities need to be staffed 24/7 by nurses on a roster.

SDHB are looking for staff with the following skillsets:

• Registered Nurses with a current Annual Practising Certificate;

• Recent experience in primary care, medical nursing and/or those with triage and assessment skills would be ideal.

If you have these skills and are interested in assisting with managed isolation and quarantine please contact HR on [covidworkforce@southerndhb.govt.nz](mailto:covidworkforce@southerndhb.govt.nz).

**Reminders**

**The Queenstown Chamber of Commerce**has recently launched WeAreCommunity, a free programme supported by Westpac NZ for management level employees who have recently been made redundant and wish to remain connected to the Queenstown business community. The purpose of this programme is to help support these people who will now be looking to find alternative employment, as they will be a valuable asset in our economy’s recovery phase. Members can take advantage of attending the Chamber networking and education events, as well as being kept informed on employment initiatives underway across the district. To apply email [membership@queenstownchamber.org.nz](mailto:membership@queenstownchamber.org.nz)

**Government** has announced a further expansion of the Small Business Cashflow Scheme. Applications opened 12 May and can now be submitted up to and including 31 December 2020. All other conditions remain the same. For details of the loan conditions visit: [www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19](http://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19) Details about all our COVID-19 relief initiatives, including eligibility criteria and applying for the SBC loan, can be found at [www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19](http://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19)

**Immigration New Zealand** has also announced a six-month extension of temporary work visas. There are three key changes for visa holders. Read more [HERE](https://customer.immigration.govt.nz/mail/view/t85tx1c3smf458sh13d254zyz40c3ldyg022z8lclcdjknmd49fz8_x276gfrzkd8zht826s49wt5h7sp4y52)

**QLDC Event Funding**

The 2020/21 QLDC contestable events funding is now open for applications, closing July 31, 2020.

How to apply:

Check if your event meets the criteria - read the event funding guidelines [HERE](https://www.qldc.govt.nz/media/aulnggsx/2020-qldceventsfundingguideline-finalv1-0.pdf)

Complete the online application form before 5pm Friday, July 31, 2020 [HERE](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3G7CQZY)

**COVID-19 Resilient Recovery Planning**

If you have not already, now is the time to ensure your team is thinking strategically about recovery.

It is easy to get overwhelmed with the response process and the complexities of adapting operations to our new normal. But it is vital for long term success to allow time for some strategic thinking. If you are a small business owner, this means extracting yourself from the operations. If you are a larger organisation it may be helpful to assign a separate team to start thinking strategically about recovery for your organisation. Read more [HERE](https://lakewanakatourism.cmail19.com/t/j-l-qdritlt-thjuydutjh-p/)

**Webinars and Events**

**Building brand New Zealand**

Learn about Tourism New Zealand’s latest global campaign to build brand New Zealand, increasing its appeal as a great place to live, invest in, buy products from, study and visit again when the time is right.

**When; Thursday 6 August, 3pm Register** [**HERE**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tMNhhqv1TZapItKjQi_Rtg)

**Australia activity update**

Find out about Tourism New Zealand’s restart plans for the Australia market for when the time is right and more about our Australian visitors so your business is ready to attract and welcome our Aussie neighbours.

**When; Wednesday 12 August, 1pm Register** [**HERE**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nme3D3keT7qN7R9YRuGsIw)

TNZ’s offshore trade marketing managers will host a series of webinars designed to update NZ industry on the following:

* A look into their trade activity over the past three to four months
* An update on the trade landscape and sentiment in-market
* A brief overview of their upcoming activity for FY21
* How can NZ industry get involved in TNZ trade activity offshore

**UK and Continental Europe | 18:30 – 19:15, Thursday 30 July Register** [**HERE**](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Nw9lfbyhTSGdSSeAZjzbYQ)

**A Reset Summit 2020** will feature Max Rashbrooke to discuss the future of democracy. Two events are scheduled for 29 and 30 July in Queenstown and Wanaka, respectively. Event partners include Ignite Wanaka, LINK Upper Clutha, Sustainable Queenstown, Catalyst and Shaping our Future. Details and tickets for **QUEENSTOWN 30th July 7pm, Queenstown Memorial Centre is** [**HERE**](https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/power-to-the-people-next-steps-with-max-rashbrooke-queenstown-tickets-112061462852?aff=ebdssbeac) **and**  **WANAKA 29th July 7pm Wanaka Community Hub** [**HERE**](https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/power-to-the-people-next-steps-with-max-rashbrooke-wanaka-tickets-112050987520?aff=ebdssbeac)

**ASB and Queenstown Chamber presents The ASB Great Debate on Wednesday 26 August at Queenstown Memorial Centre.**

A finance debate for New Zealand parliamentary parties. A voice for party policy and a platform for your questions. This event represents an unrivalled opportunity for Queenstown voters to hear and engage with Finance Ministers and Party Leaders from the main political parties as they present their respective party views. This is an evening of political theatre, not to be missed.

Wednesday, 26 August, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Price:Single Ticket (incl GST): $15.00

Venue: Queenstown Memorial Centre,

1 Memorial Street, Queenstown 9300

[**BOOK NOW**](https://www.queenstownchamber.org.nz/events-training/events/the-asb-great-debate-2020/)

**Farrah’s** is doing a road trip around the South Island to help support local cafes and restaurants who have been impacted by the recent pandemic. The team will be at Queenstown Bay Beach this Friday 24 July from 10:30am giving away 50 x $15 vouchers for Yonder. Head to @farrahsnz on Facebook or Instagram to follow the road trip, or contact [millie@amggroup.co.nz](mailto:millie@amggroup.co.nz) to find out more.

***We are here to help, so if you have any concerns, or are not getting the support you need, from the resources, please contact anyone below.***

**Destination Queenstown** – Ann Lockhart – CEO – [annl@queenstownNZ.nz](mailto:annl@queenstownNZ.nz)

**Queenstown Chamber** – Craig Douglas – Acting GM – [chair@queenstownchamber.org.nz](mailto:chair@queenstownchamber.org.nz)

**Lake Wanaka Tourism** – James Helmore – GM – [james@wanaka.co.nz](mailto:james@wanaka.co.nz)

**Ignite Wanaka Chamber** – Naomi Lindsay – Executive Officer – [naomi@ignitewanaka.co.nz](mailto:naomi@ignitewanaka.co.nz)

**QLDC Economic Development** – Peter Harris – Economic Development Manager [peter.harris@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:peter.harris@qldc.govt.nz)

**Regional Business Partners** – Tara Druce – Business Advisor – [tara@otagorbp.co.nz](mailto:tara@otagorbp.co.nz)