

*KNOW WHO
YOU ARE,
BE WHO
YOU ARE.*

*RAINBOWYOUTH
ANNUAL REPORT
2017*



RainbowYOUTH

As RainbowYOUTH enters its 29th year of operation, it also enters a stage of new horizon. After a 4 year period of growth, RainbowYOUTH now has 10 staff members (including one based in Tauranga), a fully operational support service, a national scope for health promotion, an established presence on the national stage around queer and gender diverse issues and a flourishing new direction for our education programme.

Our membership base is growing and diversifying, as is our volunteer base. Increasingly, we are being approached to work across sectors and regions to improve the well being and

opportunities for queer and gender diverse youth in Aotearoa New Zealand. While these ventures are exciting, RainbowYOUTH staff and volunteers work hard to maintain the kaupapa and values set out by the founding members of RainbowYOUTH in 1989. And after 29 years, we are still, proudly so, a youth run and youth led organisation that believes in the strength, resilience and skills of queer and gender diverse youth.

We are excited to share with you our mahi over 2016/2017, and we thank you sincerely for your support of RainbowYOUTH.

STAY UPDATED

@RAINBOWYOUTH ON



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In early 2017, we asked four of our members to write letters of advice to their younger selves. We filmed them reading these letters aloud to acknowledge International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

DEAR ME AT AGE 14



“I KNOW YOU’RE SCARED RIGHT NOW, BECAUSE YOU’VE JUST HAD ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND TERRIFYING REALIZATIONS OF YOUR LIFE...”



“...YOU DON’T WANT YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO KNOW, BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING, YOU WISH THAT YOU COULD HIDE IT FROM YOURSELF...”



“...JUST REMEMBER, WHEN PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO HELP, LET THEM - THEY HAVE THEIR REASONS FOR WANTING TO...”



“...I AM SO EXCITED FOR YOUR FUTURE...”

LOVE, ME AT AGE 19



TAINE POLKINGHORNE & SOPHIE SILLS
CO-CHAIRPERSONS

TĒNĀ KOUTOU,

No good co-chairperson report is complete without a huge thank you to everyone that puts their time and hard work into RainbowYOUTH. We have achieved a lot in the past twelve months, but none of it would have been possible without the tireless work of all of our staff, interns, volunteers, and members. Ngā mihi nui kia koutou, you have all accomplished many great things this year.

This board term has been a big year of firsts. Most board terms seem to take us further and make us stronger as an organisation, but every year our achievements seem to grow in scale. Over the past 12 months, our staff team has grown, we were gifted a van, and have celebrated many successful fundraising initiatives.

At our peak this term, RainbowYOUTH was employing ten full and part-time staff members - what a change we have undergone from our origins as a small band of volunteers in the 1990s! This truly speaks to our growing presence in both rainbow and non-rainbow spaces across Aotearoa. New roles have been created across our staff team this year, for example, we were able to begin a conjoint project with Lifewise using money raised from Team Rainbow during the Big Sleep Out 2016. This funding has allowed us to employ Aotearoa's first rainbow homelessness support worker, an area of huge need in our community. Additionally, we have

been able to secure funding for our roles in education and fundraising to make a much-needed return. All of these changes are very exciting and we are lucky to have such a dedicated team of staff members working with us.

This term we have also been fortunate enough to secure funding for a RainbowYOUTH van. While this may sound like a small achievement, Mahipahi allows us to transport members, volunteers, interns, and staff members in polka-dot style. This has meant that our groups are no longer limited to the drop-in centre or public transport. Our outdoors group, Outside the Box, have used Mahipahi to take trips, go tramping, and visit beautiful West Coast beaches. Even beyond this, Mahipahi is helping us continue to expand our support and education into rural areas of Aotearoa. As we mark important growth and new connections in Tauranga, Christchurch, and Dunedin, our van has made so much more possible so that we can continue to reach and support rural youth. Mahipahi marks a shift in our organisation towards independence and growth.

Thanks to the hard work and initiative of our staff, we secured a charity partnership with MediaWorks to help us with our rural outreach programme, the I'm Local Project. This has been a huge area of learning and growth for us as we work alongside an organisation with a wide reach of

influence. They have donated their time, ideas, advertising space, and resources to helping our cause. This partnership also lead to our charity gala night in May 2017, which raised over \$26,000 towards the I'm Local project. Beyond that, we gained several strong connections to groups and organisations that were not often involved with RainbowYOUTH or our community. We'd like to thank each one, and hope that these partnerships will continue to foster a safe environment for rainbow young people in the wider community.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the rest of the Executive Board members over the 16/17 term - particularly Rachel, who began this term as co-chair with Sophie. As volunteers, we often have many other commitments to juggle around board meetings and making progress in our strategy. The board whānau play such a huge role in making RainbowYOUTH what it is, and we remember that with gratitude that extends beyond words.

Again, we thank everyone who has made these (and all of our other) achievements this term a possibility. It has been a mammoth effort, but we are looking forward to all of the challenges and firsts that the coming term will bring us.

Nāku iti noa, nā,

Taine Polkinghorne & Sophie Sills

YOUTH RUN, YOUTH LED.



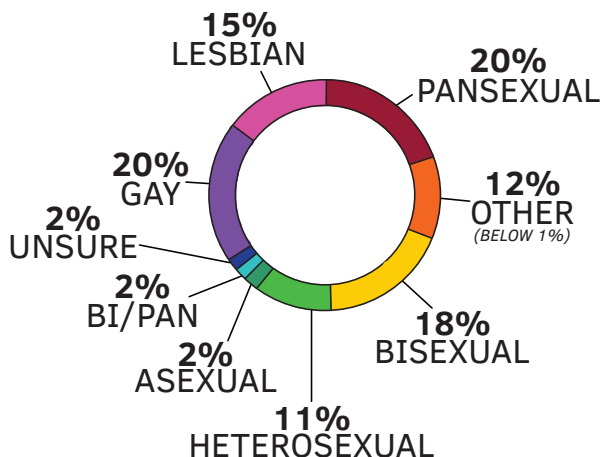
RAINBOWYOUTH EXECUTIVE BOARD 2016/2017

(L - R) Emilie Rākete (Tangata Whenua Rep), Taine Polkinghorne (Co-Chairperson), Sophie Sills (Co-Chairperson), Joel Gatland, Rachel Brebner, Debra Doyle, Ryvre Thompson (Secretary), Hamish Tait (Treasurer), Beth Maynard (*Stepped down*), Jake Angus (*Stepped down*), and Frances Arns (*not pictured*).

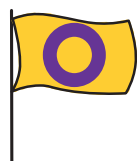
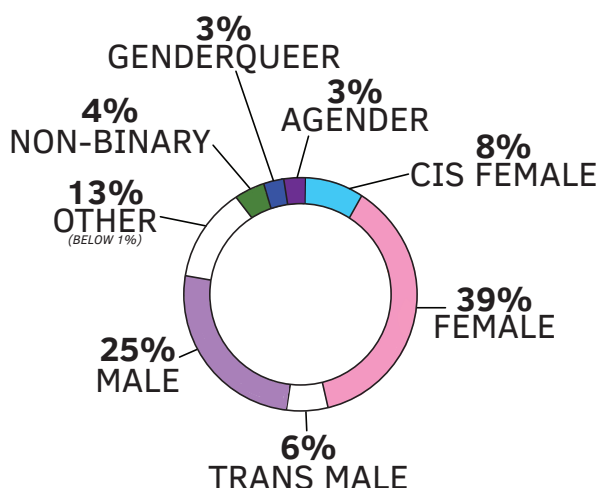
RAINBOWYOUTH MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

In October 2016, RainbowYOUTH created and distributed a membership survey across our networks. The aims of the survey were to gather more information about who our membership and service users are and how they have experienced our various services. The survey was completed a total of 325 times. Here are some of the things we found out...

OUR SEXUALITIES



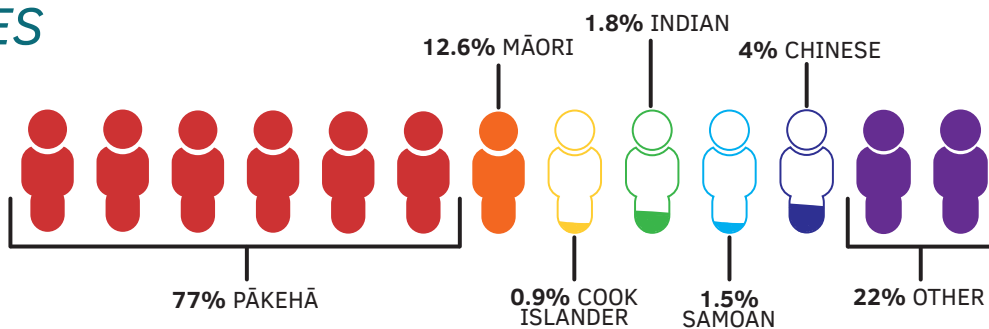
OUR GENDER IDENTITIES



**2% OF THOSE SURVEYED
IDENTIFIED AS INTERSEX**

OUR ETHNICITIES

NB: People could select more than one option for our ethnicities category



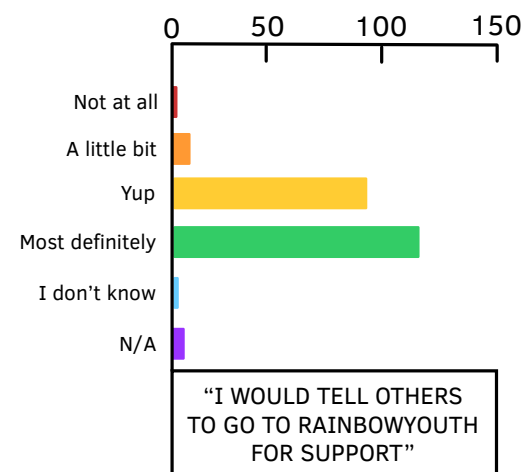
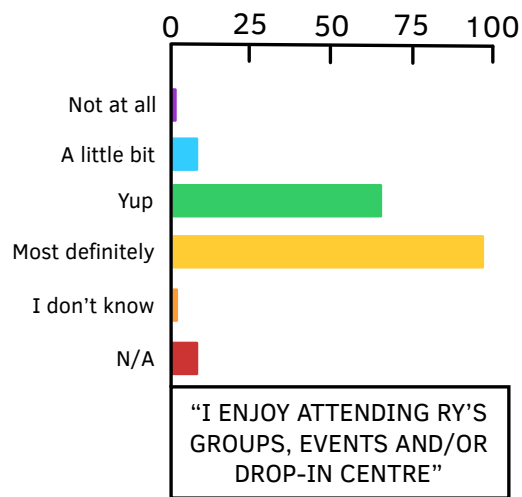
**“THE VIBE WHEN
YOU WALK IN IS
LIKE A FAMILY”**

- COMMENT IN THE MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

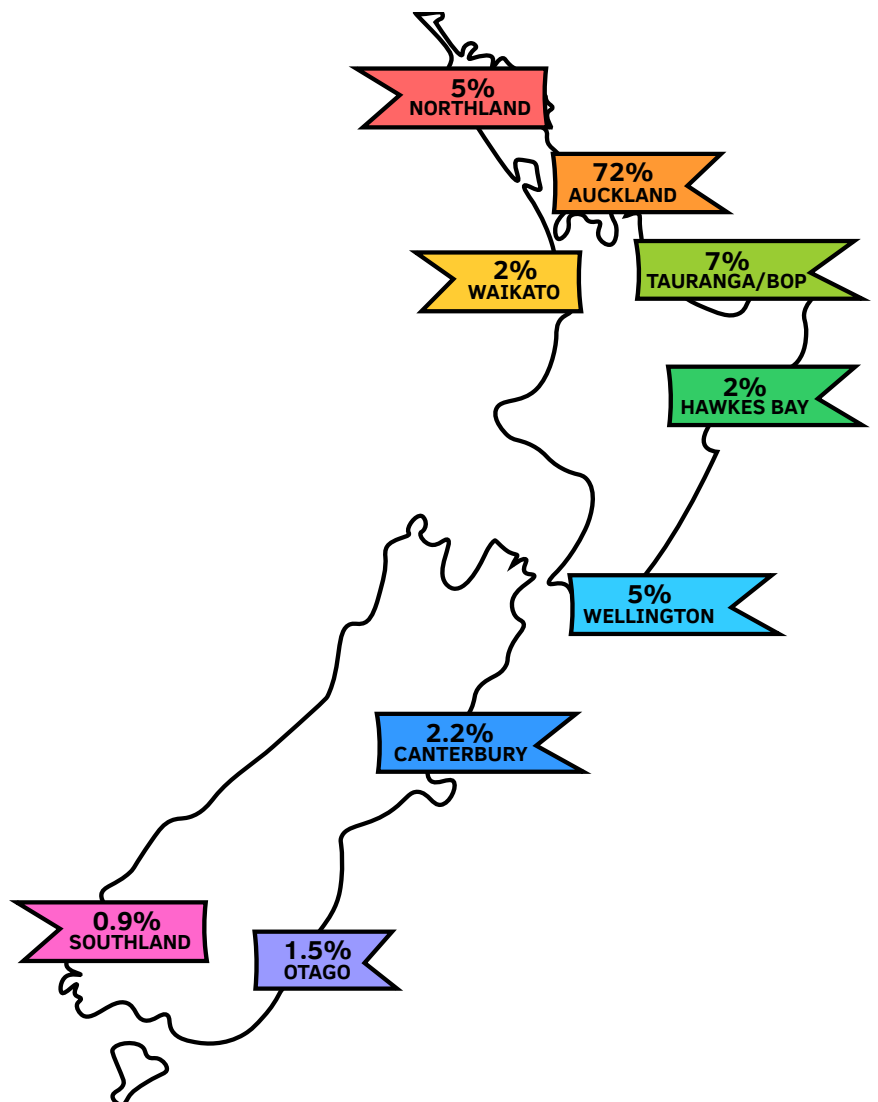
“BEFORE I FOUND RY, I FELT ALONE FOR THE LONGEST TIME. NOW I CAN TALK WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER NZ AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS”

- COMMENT IN THE MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

OUR SERVICES



OUR LOCATIONS





DUNCAN MATTHEWS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TĒNĀ KOUTOU E HOA MĀ!

The last 12 months have been huge for RainbowYOUTH, with a number of initiatives we have been working on for three plus years bearing fruit. More services for young people that reach further across Aotearoa, and two successful fundraising initiatives are just a couple of examples of this year which started in 2013.

Looking back to June 2016, it was hard to imagine that we would be here, under such great circumstances today. We shared some of the staffing and board challenges experienced prior to the 2016 AGM, but what was shared less widely was the financial stress that moving to our new premises caused the organisation. The situation was such that the Executive Board drew down a small loan to meet day to day cashflow requirements. But I can happily say today that that loan has been fully repaid, and the impact to RainbowYOUTH's ability to operate during that time wasn't significantly hampered.

To those who worked hard alongside me to get us through that tough period. I think we can all be proud of where we have got the organisation to today!

This year, we say goodbye to one staff member. Casper Gordon came on board in September 2016 as the Finance, Policy and HR Assistant. Casper was with us until April 2017,

and over that time did a huge amount of work getting the Health and Safety of our organisation into order. If this sounds like a fairly boring, thankless task, it's because it is! But Casper took on the task with great enthusiasm, and managed to engage a large cross-section of the organisation in getting involved in Health and Safety. Thank you Casper for your hard work with the organisation over the last 9 months, we were very sad to see you leave the staff team, but pleased you're sticking around as a member!

A great number of staff have also joined RainbowYOUTH in recent months, to deal with the rapid expansion underway!

Velvi Ryder joined the RainbowYOUTH and Body Positive teams in January 2017, in the role of Grants and Finance Administrator. Working in collaboration, RY and BP created a full time role out of the two part time, similar roles we needed to fill. Vel's work has greatly increased our ability to apply for many of the new, and international, grants that are becoming available. Vel is particularly key to the team as our operations expand nationally across Aotearoa, and we need to apply for grants from Cape Reinga to the Bluff. Welcome Vel!

Melanie Govender, a former Board Member for RainbowYOUTH, also joined

the RY staff team in January 2017 as the Auckland Schools Coordinator. Mel has immediately got stuck in, working on our new OUT Schools Initiative, which is being piloted in three schools across Auckland in 2017, with plans to create an evidence base for expanding the programme in 2018. Welcome Mel!

Another awesome partnership we've been working on is with Lifewise. Out of the Big Sleep Out 2016, RY and Lifewise jointly fundraised to create a project around rainbow homelessness in Auckland. Madison Brownlee joined the RY and Lifewise staff teams in March 2017 as the Rainbow Housing Support Worker. Working across both organisations, Madie is making a big difference connecting to rainbow young people at risk of experiencing homelessness, and building an evidence base around rainbow homelessness in Auckland. Welcome Madie!

Being the first RainbowYOUTH employee not based in Auckland, Nathan Bramwell started in March 2017 also as the B.O.P. and Hauraki Regional Coordinator. Nate spends 20 hours a week working in the Bay of Plenty and Hauraki regions, supporting the local peer groups, and connecting with schools, youth and health organisations to increase support for queer and gender diverse young people in those regions. Welcome Nate!

A brief mention also has to go to Lee Grabarek, Alice Dawson and Elly Crispin, all who did/have joined us for 2-3 months each for specific projects or cover. All the work done by staff at RainbowYOUTH is important, and I'm very thankful to these three who have stepped up to get something done when needed!

As talked about already, a number of new opportunities for staff have come from partnerships with other organisations, Body Positive, Lifewise and Waikato Queer Youth. There are many other partnerships with organisations around the country that help RY to do the work we do, for the benefit of queer young people. Just a few examples include YMCA Tauranga, where Nate has a desk a few days a week in Tauranga; Ara Taiohi (peak body for the youth sector), working on the Rainbow Ready toolkit for mainstream youth organisations, and the professionalisation of Youth Work in Aotearoa; and the amazing Tīwhanawhana trust, who have worked hard with us over a two year period to produce the new resource Growing Up Takatāpui: Whānau Journeys, complete with online resource hub takatāpui.nz.

I'd also like to thank a number of our key business and funder supporters, ASB Bank has now supported RainbowYOUTH for four years, most recently being the naming rights sponsor for our fundraising gala, 'It's a Bit Posh'. MediaWorks and the MediaWorks Foundation have really pushed RY's presence in the media, and 'It's a Bit Posh' would not have been possible without their commitment. Foundation North, Lotteries, Ministry of Social Development and the Raye Freedman Trust continue to be key funders of RainbowYOUTH, with the Todd Foundation also joining in with their support too.

There are simply too many people, organisations, businesses, and funders to thank individually here. Many of them are listed elsewhere, but I want to end this report by thanking all of our members and volunteers, who are at the coal front every day or week, giving their time to make life just a little better for the next generation.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,
Duncan Matthews




A YEAR *IN* NUMBERS

166

PEER-SUPPORT GROUPS
RAN THIS YEAR (VS 128
LAST YEAR)

AN AVERAGE OF

41 PEOPLE PER WEEK

VISITED OUR DROP-IN CENTRE

406

RESOURCE PACKS WERE
DOWNLOADED OR DISTRIBUTED

WE HAD NEARLY

80,000

VISITS TO OUR
WEBSITES (VS
40,000 LAST
YEAR)

BAY OF PLENTY FACILITATOR HUI



In early September 2016, a bunch of RY members travelled to Tauranga to join our peer-support group, TaurangaPryde, as well as our friends from WaQuY and Thames Youth Centre in a RainbowYOUTH run training hui.

This hui focused on equipping peer-support group facilitators with skills they need to run a group. This included boundaries and self-care workshops, learning about our Vulnerable Children's Policy, cultural competency, and team building exercises.

RAINBOWYOUTH DOES OUTWARD BOUND

The role of volunteers at RainbowYOUTH is vital to our day-to-day running, and to several of the services we've provided since our earliest days (such as our peer support groups). We work hard to make sure that our volunteers are recognised for the work they do, and also have access to some cool opportunities they wouldn't usually have. In 2016, RY teamed up with Outward Bound as one of their community partners which meant that we could offer Outward Bound courses to our members at a special price. The awesome folks at ASB generously funded two of our volunteers to attend an Outward Bound course in August 2016.

Selected to go were our Co-Chairperson, Sophie, and facilitator of GQ and Star* , Hayden. The prospect of three weeks with a bunch of strangers, no way of contacting home, or the internet, was definitely a source of nervousness for both Sophie and Hayden, as well as the RY staff team. But both Sophie and Hayden came back safe and sound with some awesome stories to share.



“THERE ARE MANY PARTS OF THE EXPERIENCE THAT REALLY CANNOT BE CONVEYED IN WRITING. BUT THIS WAS DEFINITELY ONE OF THE BEST, MOST REWARDING EXPERIENCES OF MY LIFE”

– SOPHIE



AUCKLAND PRIDE FESTIVAL 2017



As always, the Auckland Pride Festival in February 2017 was a great opportunity for RainbowYOUTH to engage with the wider rainbow community at events like the Big Gay Out and the Pride Parade.

During the Big Gay Out, RainbowYOUTH shared our tent with our mates at CADs and InsideOUT, collected donations and gave out ribbons, cookies, self care tips and of course, information about our services!

In partnership with Auckland Libraries, we also held an Open Day and an exhibition about our history. We opened our centre to the public, young people, and anybody in the community working with LGBTIQ young people. Attendees got the chance to inquire about RY's services, pick up resources and meet the core staff and volunteer team at RY.



Our RY History Exhibition was launched after months of research looking into RY's history and interviews with a number of key past members.

Viewers got to experience the history of RY in video, audio and print form and take the opportunity to add their own memory of RainbowYOUTH to the exhibition.

In October 2016, RY Executive Director, Duncan, and Communications Manager and 2IC, Toni, travelled to Bangkok as part of a delegation from New Zealand to bid to host the next ILGA World Conference in Wellington in 2019.

ILGA WORLD CONFERENCE IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

ILGA is a worldwide federation of more than 1,200 member organisations from 132 countries campaigning for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex rights.



The conference provided an opportunity to meet other activists, and representatives from all around the world. It was a time for RainbowYOUTH to share our work and resources on an international stage, as well as to learn more about the struggles faced by organisations in different organisations.

Alongside Tiwhanawhana Trust and ITANZ, RainbowYOUTH presented New Zealand's bid to hold the next ILGA World Conference in New Zealand to over 700 delegates and was well received. Planning has begun about RY's place in the 2019 ILGA World Conference.



2017 YOUTH WEEK AWARDS

RainbowYOUTH volunteers, Quinn Fyers and Ben Bridle, were honoured this year at the 2017 Youth Week Awards as LGBTIQ Change Makers. Sadly, Ben couldn't make it to the ceremony, but Quinn (pictured below, second left) was able to attend and received his award in the Beehive from Minister Nikki Kaye. We're super proud of them both!



2017 ASB & RY TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIPS

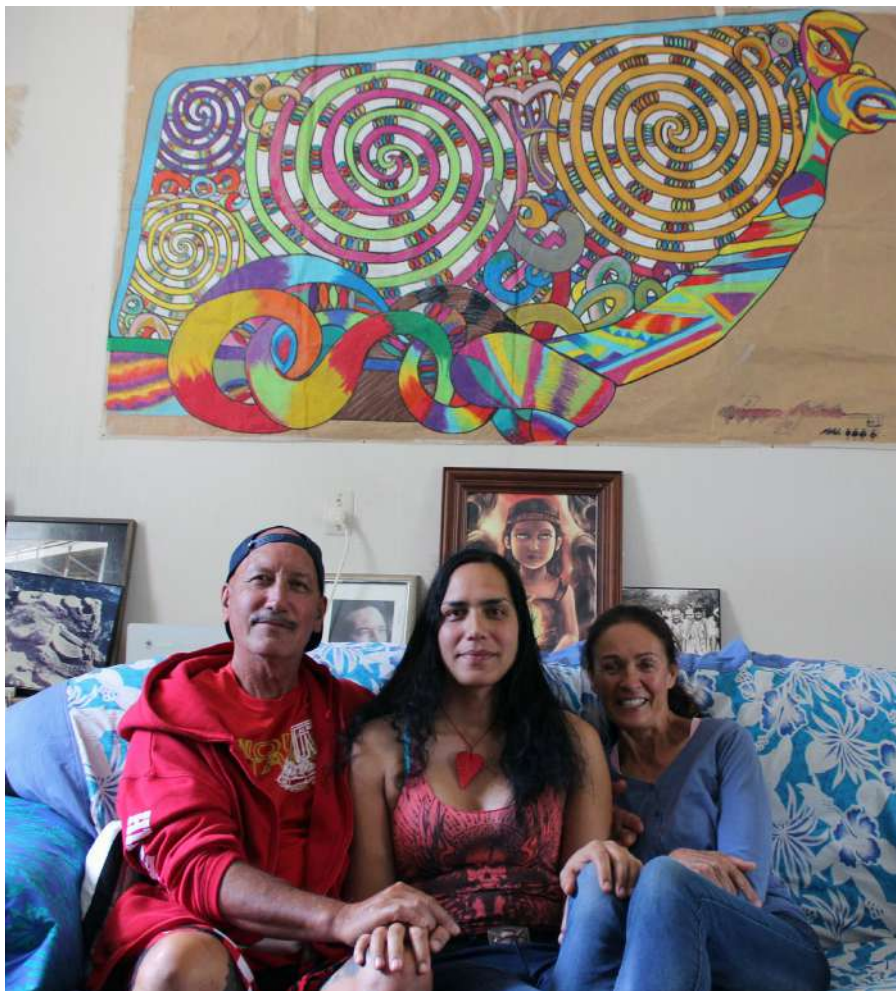
In an effort to spotlight and celebrate the work of volunteers in the rainbow community, ASB and RainbowYOUTH ran their second call for applicants to the ASB and RY Tertiary Scholarship. After a competitive selection process, two recipients were selected to receive a total of \$2,500 towards costs associated with their study.



Kassie Hartendorp (pictured second from the left) is a youth worker based in Wellington. Kassie has been working and volunteering in the rainbow community since 2010, with a focus more recently on addressing the gaps in support for Māori and Pacific sexuality and gender diverse people. Kassie's area of study is a **Diploma in Mātauranga Māori (Indigenous Knowledges)** at Te Wānanga Raukawa.

Mathew Minnear (pictured second from the right), also based in Wellington, is a **WelTec student studying a Bachelor of Counselling**. Mathew's volunteering has focused on the last year and a half with the organisation School's Out, working to support queer and gender diverse youth as well as organising events for the organisation.

T A U T O K O A R O H A

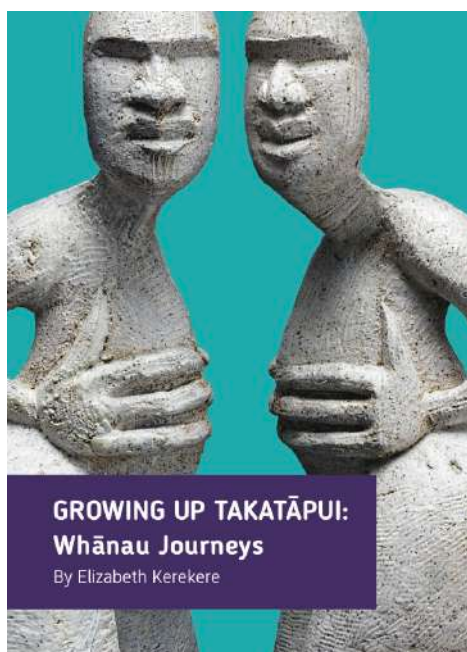


In March 2017, we released our latest resource created in partnership with Tiwhanawhana Trust. **Growing Up Takatāpui: Whānau Journeys** is a print and digital resource created from interviews with seven takatāpui* rangatahi and their whānau about the importance of whānau support.

Featuring whānau of different kinds, the resource reflects the challenges and triumphs they have gone through together. It sheds light on how whānau support can improve the well-being of takatāpui rangatahi using the Te Whare Tapa Whā Maori health model. The resource was written by Dr Elizabeth Kerekere (founder of Tiwhanawhana Trust), while the project was managed and coordinated by our Comms Manager and 2IC, Toni Duder, and Support Manager, Morgan Butler.

Available for free around Aotearoa, the resource was developed for whānau who are struggling or need more information to better support their takatāpui rangatahi. It is also relevant for takatāpui who are struggling to communicate with their whānau.

Funding received from Te Ara Whiriwhiri, Te Puni Kōrkiri and It's Not OK have meant that the resource's reach will be considerable and a website was able to be developed to make the resource more interactive and accessible. The website also includes links to other resources that shed more light on takatāpui issues. It's our hope that this website will grow as more resources are published, and will act as an awesome digital library of takatāpui content.



**GROWING UP TAKATĀPUI:
Whānau Journeys**
By Elizabeth Kerekere

**Takatāpui = a reclaimed term to embrace all Māori who identify with diverse sexes, genders and sexualities, such as whakawāhine (trans women), tangata ira tāne (trans men), lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer.*

For more info - www.takatāpui.nz

I'M LOCAL YOUR LOCAL

Now into it's third year, The I'm Local Project continues to be one of RainbowYOUTH's most successful projects. With a mandate to create queer and gender diverse visibility in rural areas, over 80,000 Sexuality and Gender 101 comics have been sent all over Aotearoa!



I'M LOCAL + NZSL

Working alongside DeafRadio, we were able to add a NZSL version of the I'm Local Project Gender and Sexuality 101 comic to our website. Released in May 2017 during NZSL Week, the video is one of the first NZSL resources for the rainbow community released in Aotearoa.

CROWDFUNDING FOR THE I'M LOCAL PROJECT

In August 2016, a crowdfunder we ran to fundraise for The I'm Local Project finished with us raising over \$11k to help us with another print run of the I'm Local comic. A special shoutout to the magic team at Two Hands Tattoo who held a fundraising flash day to help raise funds for the campaign. Tattooing solidly for a day, the team raised a whopping \$4,320.00!

REGIONAL RESOURCES

Another exciting step for The I'm Local Project was the launch of the first of many region specific resources, listing rainbow friendly services for youth in specific areas of the country. The first resource focused on Otago and Southland, was released in April of this year. Currently in development is one for the Waikato and Bay of Plenty areas.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

TRENT LEGENDRE - RY FACILITATOR

GROUP: WHANGAREINBOW

PRONOUNS: HE/HIM

AGE: 16



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT FACILITATING?

I love being able to facilitate an inclusive environment where youth of diverse sexuality and gender identities are able to feel acknowledged, safe and able to expose themselves to similar others with whom they can connect and relate. It makes me feel like I'm really contributing to the strengthening and enhancement of the well being of Queer youth, now and for the future.

WHAT ARE SOME COMMON ISSUES BROUGHT UP BY MEMBERS IN YOUR GROUP?

Some commonly brought up issues for members at the meetings include:

- Issues around being transgender
- Coming out
- The issue of non acceptance (or the fear of it) from interpersonal relationships
- Lack of awareness of queerness in Whangarei/Northland
- Understanding of identity
- The need for knowledge on topics and terms relevant to LGBTQ+
- Relationships

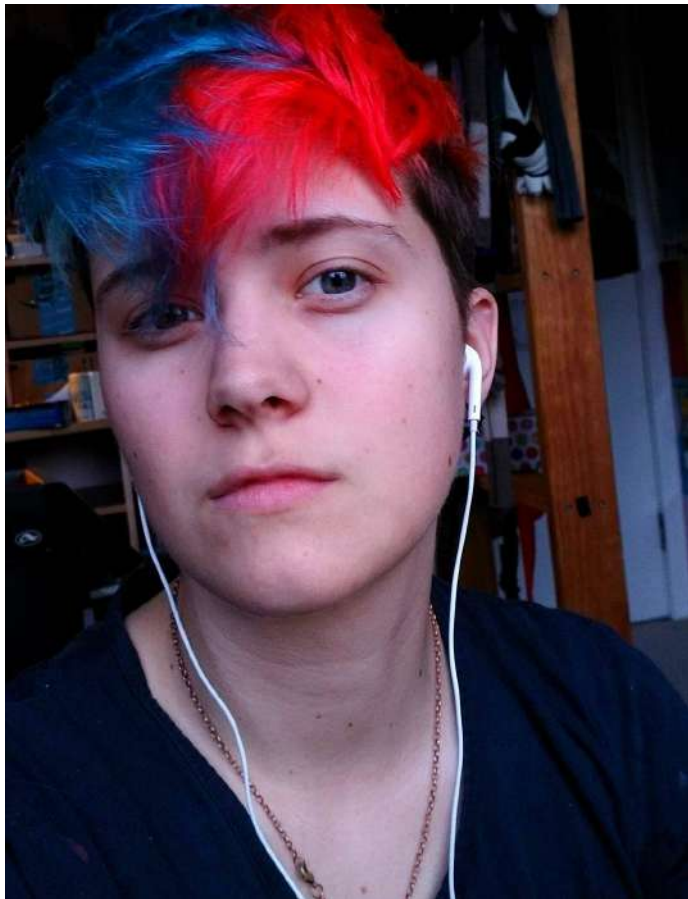
WHAT IS YOUR TOP SELF CARE TIP?

Don't hesitate to take yourself on a date when you just need some alone time. Lots of cookies, chocolate and Netflix!

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE QUOTE?

"Be weird, be random, be who you are, because you never know who would love the person you hide" - C.S Lewis

PICTURED: TRENT AND HIS MUM



LINDSAY HARRINGTON

- RY INTERN

PRONOUNS: *THEY/THEM*

AGE: 21

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING AT RY?

I have somewhere I can go when I need get out of my own head/interact with the human world.

WHAT IS YOUR TOP SELF CARE TIP?

Audiobooks turn off loud brains.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE QUOTE?

"The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it." - Sir Terry Pratchett

MICAELLA STONE

- RY FACILITATOR

AGE: 19

GROUP: GQ

PRONOUNS: *SHE/HER*

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT FACILITATING?

Seeing group members grow, connect, and support each other. The dad jokes aren't half bad either!

WHAT ARE SOME COMMON ISSUES BROUGHT UP BY MEMBERS IN YOUR GROUP?

School is a big one for lots of our members. Everyone deserves to feel safe, respected and able to learn, especially when you're there 6+ hours a day

WHAT'S YOUR TOP SELF CARE TIP?

Learn to say no! Sometimes you need to take time to sit in silence and snuggle a cat, even if that means you can't help out at an event or your friends don't see you that day.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE QUOTE?

Everything will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end.



A NEW FOCUS ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS



In July 2016, RainbowYOUTH created Team Rainbow - a group of influential Aucklanders who took part in the Lifewise Big Sleep Out to raise money to combat homelessness. Team Rainbow raised over \$25,000 and in a partnership with Lifewise, RainbowYOUTH used the money raised to create the first ever staffed role dedicated to LGBTIQ youth homelessness.

Madison Brownlee was hired as the Rainbow Housing Support Worker at RainbowYOUTH and Lifewise. In this role, Madie works with homeless LGBTIQ youth who access support through either Lifewise or RY. She works with them to access and maintain long term, sustainable housing.

Madie is also working to establish a well needed body of evidence around the experiences of LGBTIQ homeless youth in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Team Rainbow, supported by Madie, will be at it again during the 2017 Big Sleep Out, working to raise money to sustain the work that she does and to fund other joint projects between RY and Lifewise around LGBTIQ youth homelessness.



Since the launch of RainbowYOUTH's support group TaurangaPryde in 2014, demand for support, resources and services around rainbow issues has grown significantly. In an important step, RainbowYOUTH hired our first ever staff member based outside of Auckland.

RY'S FIRST REGIONAL STAFF MEMBER

In March 2017, Nathan Bramwell was hired as the Regional Coordinator for Bay of Plenty and Hauraki to help grow the capacity of organisations in these areas to support rainbow young people. Nathan's key areas of responsibility include on-the-ground support and growth of existing peer-support groups like TaurangaPryde as well as working to with mainstream youth organisations to create referral processes in the regions.



Since he began in his role, Nathan has focused on networking with youth services in the region and assisting in the training of youth facilitators for TaurangaPryde.

With the development and success of the Regional Coordinator role, it is RainbowYOUTH's hope to replicate this role in other areas of the country.





FANCY FUNDRAISING

RainbowYOUTH's first ever charity auction went off with a bang on May 4th 2017 – with \$25,000 raised to support the I'm Local Project – RainbowYOUTH's rural outreach initiative.

Supported by ASB Bank and the MediaWorks Foundation, the night was themed 'It's A Bit Posh' and featured an amazing comedic and entertainment lineup. Taking the stage as MC was the amazing Ali Mau (*RadioLive*), with performances by Justine Smith (*Comedy Guild Award for Best Comedian and Best M.C.*, *Billy T Comedy Award winner*), Cori Gonzalez-Macuer (*What We Do In The Shadows*, *7 Days*, and *Billy T Comedy Award winner*) and Eli Matthewson (*Funny Girls*, *Jono & Ben*, *7 Days*, and *Billy T Comedy Award Nominee*), Fan Brigade, and local DJ, Arii Jade. Topping off this awesome line up was Caluzzi's Kita Mean and Sir Dame Judy Ginger.

Attendees placed bids on a variety of auction items generously donated by local businesses, including a rainbow shed from Fletcher Building full of tools!

On behalf of RainbowYOUTH staff and board, we'd like to say a massive thank you to all of those who worked to make the event a success!





HAMISH TAIT
TREASURER

2017 was another great year for RainbowYOUTH's fundraising efforts – in fact it wouldn't be exaggerating to say that we've hit previous years out of the park. And we couldn't have done it without a host of generous donors, sponsors and supporters, together with the continued hard work of the fantastic RY team.

This year, we've been grateful to receive grants and support from a range of sources, including from Foundation North, the Lotteries Commission, Auckland Council, the Community Organisation Grants Scheme, the Rule Foundation, the Grassroots Trust, Te Ara Whiriwhiri, Ara Taiohi, Lush Charity Pot, and the Estate of Sir John Logan Campbell. We should also acknowledge the generosity of the Todd Foundation and the Bay Trust, from whom we've received grants for the first time this year.

Thanks also to MediaWorks, who has provided RY with invaluable support as part of their Partnership Programme. This has included access to MediaWorks' various media and advertising outlets, including radio and online platforms, as well as access to Mediaworks' TV and radio personalities to help promote RY's work.

Special mention goes to the Raye Freedman Trust, who we're very fortunate has continued its longstanding support of RY. Thanks also to ASB, which has also continued its valuable support of RY, including its sponsorship of the ASB & RY Tertiary Scholarship, which was awarded to two more LGBTIQ young people this year. ASB also added us to their list of suggested charities as part of its TrueRewards programme, alongside Child Cancer NZ, Starship, SPCA, and St John.

We've also continued to receive valuable funding for our projects from the Ministry of Youth Development and the Ministry of Social Development, which have been boosted again this year. We're putting these resources to great use in expanding our outreach and supporting services for LGBTIQ young people across New Zealand. We've also received funding from Te Puni Kōkiri for the development of our Takatapui whanau resource, in collaboration with the Tiwhanawhana Trust.

And of course, 2017 has been a record year for personal donations. We've been overwhelmed by the support from everyday people who have

generously donated in support of RY and LGBTIQ young people this year. This includes those who gave as part of the very successful crowd-funding campaign for our flagship I'm Local Project, during Auckland Pride Week festivities, and of course after the 2016 Kaikoura earthquake (in the wake of some widely-reported comments being made by a certain public figure). To all of our fantastic donors during the year, whether regular givers or one off supporters, thank you very much.

On behalf of the RY team, thank you very much to all our generous sponsors and supporters for making 2017 such a fantastic year. Because of you, we are able to keep expanding our reach and our services, to provide more and more support to LGBTIQ young people all over New Zealand.

Ngā mihi nui,
Hamish Tait

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR 2016/2017



RY'S GENEROUS DONORS & SUPPORTERS

for the 12 months ended 31st March 2017

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A M Welvaert
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Aimee McNaughton
Alden Bates
Alex Anderson
Alexander Freer
Alister Kitchen
Andrew and Jemma
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Jack Barraclough
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Todd Emerson
Tom Beard
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Vanessa Stracke
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Virginia Sutherland
Wall, Nicola M
Wellington Girls' College
Westlake Girls High School
Wilkerson L
YouthLaw
Yvan Jo Drake
Zarine Rocha

RY IN THE MEDIA 2016/2017

Over 2016 and 2017, RainbowYOUTH has been featured regularly in mainstream and LGBTIQ specific media, with almost weekly requests to provide comments and expertise on various issues pertaining to the queer and gender diverse community.

Several of our projects including our History Exhibition for Pride 2017, as well as our whānau takatāpui resource gained significant national media attention, with a television coverage on Māori Television, and a national radio spot on Radio NZ.

RainbowYOUTH's media coverage over 2016/2017 has seen several indepth profiles of key staff and board members. Our Support Manager, Morgan, was featured as a Herald Hero, and our Co-Chair, Sophie, was listed in the Auckland Pride Guide as a Change Maker in the rainbow community.



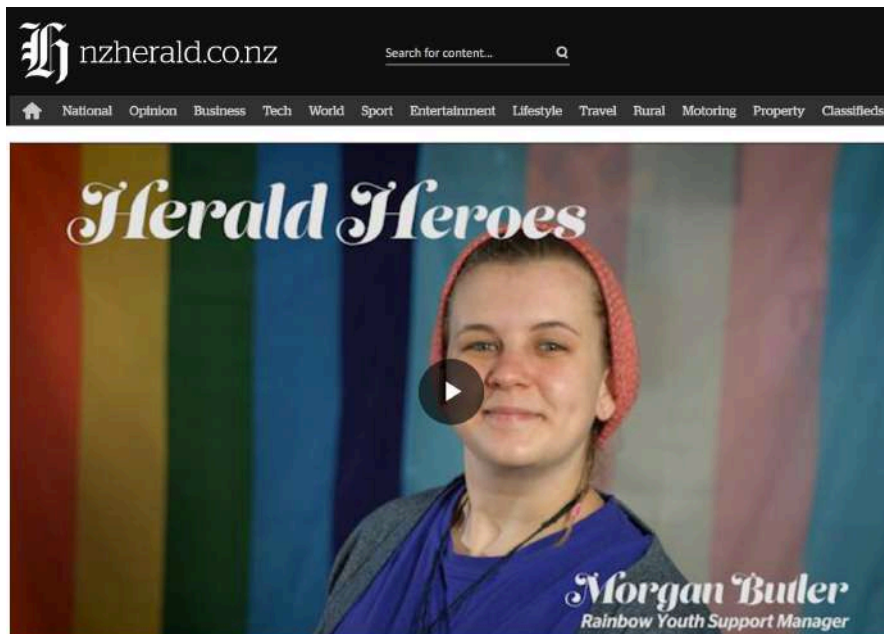
Sophie Sills, Ponsonby

I am a queer feminist cisgender Pākehā woman that likes gardening.

I run a website called levelplayingfield.org.nz that aims to challenge homophobia in sport. I am the Co-Chairperson of RainbowYOUTH, working to support queer and gender diverse young people. I am also an educator with Rape Prevention Education, where we go into high schools to teach young people about consent and healthy relationships.

I want every young person to come out of the schooling system knowing that their gender identity, sex, or sexuality is valid and awesome, and I want their peers to know that, too.

I'm inspired by Serena Williams. She faces so much racism in her sport, but she just takes it all in her stride and beats everyone at everything.



1 news now

NEW ZEALAND

Family First name used to trick people to gay website

Thu, Feb 16

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G+

e

Ryan Boswell
1NEWS Reporter



The name of a Christian lobby group is being used to trick people to go to a gay website.

Family First is well known for its conservative views, including its opposition to same-sex marriage.

Now the domain name www.familyfirst.co.nz redirects internet users to the Rainbow Youth homepage.

TE AO MĀORI / IDENTITY

Māori whānau get new advice for supporting LGBTQI kids

8:56 am on 29 March 2017

Share this



Māori whānau raising gay or gender diverse children have a new resource to help them talk to young people who come out.

The booklet 'Growing up Takatāpui: Whānau Journeys', written by Elizabeth Kerekere, explains te reo Māori word Takatāpui, which many Māori use to identify themselves and their diverse sexuality and genders.

It features stories from many takatāpui, including Cameron Kapua-Morrell, who is gay and grew up in Gisborne.

Suicide rates are highest for Māori, young people, LGBTQI and those living in poor areas, so the odds for a smooth childhood seemed stacked against Mr Kapua-Morrell.

"It was hard out there because we lived in a real low socio-economic area. You know everybody was just about the money, the drugs, every-



RAINBOWYOUTH INC. AGM MINUTES

- 26th JUNE 2017

FORMALITIES BEGIN: 12:27PM

MC: Audrey Hutcheson

Motion: That the minutes of the 2015 AGM held Sunday 28th June 2015 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: Joel Gatland
Vote: Passed with 12 for

OFFICER REPORTS

Co-Chairs: Rachel Brebner
Executive Director: Duncan Matthews
Treasurer: Hamish Tait

Motion: That the Officer reports presented by the Co-Chairpersons (Torrance Campel, Rachel Brebner), Treasurer (Hamish Tait) and Executive Director (Duncan Matthews) be accepted as presented.

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: Avery Watson
Vote: Passed with 15 for

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE RAINBOWYOUTH CONSTITUTION

Motion: That changes #1 through #20 to the RainbowYOUTH constitution, as presented at the AGM, be adopted.

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: Beth Maynard
Vote: Passed with 17 for

Motion: That the incoming Executive Board for the 2016/2017 term be tasked with reviewing the representation model on the RainbowYOUTH board, with regards to Māori, non-Māori, Gender Diverse and Intersex populations in Aotearoa. The Board will report back at the 2017 AGM.

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: Taine Polkinghorne
Vote: Passed with 17 for

EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

Motion: Elect three non-voting members as vote counters for election:

- 1) Toni Reid
- 2) Nick Laing
- 3) Stace Robertson

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: Sophie Sill
Vote: Passed with 17 for

Motion: That the current Executive Board of RainbowYOUTH stand down.

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: James Allen
Vote: Passed with 16 for

Motion: That the results of the election, being:

Co-chairpersons: Sophie Sills (two terms) and Rachel Brebner (single term)

Treasurer: Hamish Tait

Secretary: Beth Maynard

Tangata Whenua Representative: Emilie Rākete

Gender Diverse Representative: Taine Polkinghorne

And General Board Members: Debra Doyle, Jake Angus, Joel Gatland and Ryvre Thompson are accepted by the membership and appointed as the Executive Board for Rainbow Youth Inc.

1st: Audrey Hutcheson
2nd: James Allen
Vote: Passed with 16 for

*W H A I A
TO AKE
NGAKAUNUI,
I TE PONO,
I TE MARAMA.*

*RAINBOWYOUTH
ANNUAL REPORT
2017*

