

## **Businesses for Climate Action Trust - Annual Impact Report for the year to 30 June 2025**

### **Executive Summary**

Businesses for Climate Action Trust came together from 2019 - and its 'Mission Zero' initiative a little later - to create a better future for Te Taihū. We seek a safe climate and enhanced prospects for people and future generations, for organisations, and for a more resilient economy. We work with large and small businesses and with not-for-profit organisations, primarily in Nelson Tasman, inspiring climate action and promoting collaboration, and helping them to understand and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We focus on businesses because of their relatively high greenhouse gas emissions (Industry accounts for 78% of emissions in Nelson and 85% in Tasman), and the ability of businesses to find effective solutions and respond to rapidly changing needs. They can play a vital role in protecting nature and the climate, in building sustainability, and ensuring the well-being of future communities in this region.

The Trust's real strength is its ability to attract highly-skilled volunteers to help organisations on their 'net zero' carbon journey. This has enabled a lean and flexible structure. A key goal is that costs should not be a barrier to local organisations keen to cut emissions, but unsure where and how to start. This year, volunteers (3 Trustees and about 12 Volunteer Facilitators) have contributed 2,500+ hours of *pro bono* time.

Our activities this year are summarised in the '**Action & Inspiration**' section of this report. We have been fortunate to have secured funding for vital work in reducing emissions, particularly from Nelson City Council. Our main focus in the past year has been a project aimed at cutting emissions from commuting. The number of organisations and employees participating, and the results of this work, exceeded expectations and led to further action being planned in this area in 2025-26.

We love people, business, this region and the planet. Please learn about us and join us in this important mahi.

### **1. BACKGROUND**

After an informal start, 'Businesses for Climate Action' was established as a Charitable Trust in 2021. 'Mission Zero', a Trust initiative, was launched in early 2022 - a brand which would be attractive, emissions-focused and easily-accessible to local businesses.

The 'objects and purposes' in our Trust Deed include contributing to a climate-resilient economy with healthy ecosystems and biodiversity in Te Taihū (top of the South Island) and throughout Aotearoa. Work to date has focused mainly on the Nelson Tasman area.

Our key services are providing expertise and guidance, workshops and events, online tools, networking and collaboration, actions and inspiration. Our aim is to energise and support the business community on its journey to 'zero carbon'. We highlight the opportunities, not just the risks of inaction.

## **Trustees & Activators**

Trustees in the year were Florence Van Dyke, Marta Karlik-Neale and Bruce Gilkison (profiles in item 8). We are supported by our Chief Action Officer, Natalie Gilbert for (on average) 16 hours a week, and have also just recruited a programme coordinator to work on our decarbonisation workshops.

A team of highly-qualified and experienced volunteers amplify the Trust's work and success.

## **Abbreviations used in this report:**

- **BCA:** Businesses for Climate Action Trust (including its Mission Zero initiative).
- **MZ:** Mission Zero
- **NCC:** Nelson City Council
- **TDC:** Tasman District Council
- **NRDA:** Nelson Regional Development Agency
- **NTCC:** Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce
- **NTCF:** Nelson Tasman Climate Forum
- **NFP:** Not for Profit (organisations)
- **SME:** Small & Medium-sized Enterprises
- **GHGs:** Greenhouse Gases

## **Websites and Connections:**

- **BCA:** <https://businessesforclimateaction.co.nz/>
- **MZ:** <https://missionzero.nz/>
- **Linked In:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/mission-zero-nz/>

## **2. VISION, GOALS & STRATEGIES**

BCA's vision is to energise and support Te Taihu business community on its journey to zero carbon. Our mission is to galvanise and equip businesses to tackle the challenges and opportunities of climate change by providing encouragement, education, tools and collaboration opportunities, to build a resilient economy that helps our people, places, community and organisations to thrive. A key goal is a 50% decrease in carbon emissions in the region by 2030.

We do a significant amount of work with businesses, because that is where the greatest impact can be made. Key components of our strategy are summarised below.

### **Some Key Messages:**

We want to build collaboration - cutting emissions is a team game. We focus on opportunities, not just risks. And often there are co-benefits in cutting emissions.

We aim to provide practical advice and support, and to keep it simple! A starting point for organisations is usually to measure and understand their emissions. Ways to mitigate these, and the benefits from this, then become clear.

We honour the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and have respect for te ao Māori and for the iwi of Te Taihū. We are inspired by the focus on long term sustainability shown by many Māori-owned businesses, including their intergenerational focus and strong links between people and place. Speaking for NZ Trade and Enterprise, Trustee Florence Van Dyke said: ***“Māori businesses are the gold standard for sustainability internationally”***. We support this focus and we endeavour to convey this respect in our workshops and public presentations, and in our work and communications. We acknowledge that this is a continuing journey for our organisation.

### **Why Businesses?**

A study in *Nature* (April 2024, and described by *The Guardian* as the most comprehensive analysis of its type ever undertaken) confirms again that ***it is cheaper, by many orders of magnitude, to reduce emissions now.***

Some of the greatest potential savings in greenhouse gas emissions will come from businesses, including small ventures. We are committed to inspiring and enabling business owners and leaders to achieve this potential. Small businesses typically have neither the internal resources nor the funds to employ consultants to support them on their carbon journey. Note that **96% of businesses in the region employ less than 20 people** (*Nelson Tasman Insights Business Survey 2023*).

**Industry (primary, manufacturing and services) accounts for 78% of greenhouse gas emissions in Nelson and 85% of emissions in Tasman** (*Stats NZ, 2023*).

It could be asked ‘why would a charity help businesses?’ For MZ, this is the greatest contribution we can make to the future of the region, its businesses, its young people, and its most vulnerable – with climate change impacts hitting these groups earliest and hardest. Nature and biodiversity, too, will suffer as temperatures rise. We are currently developing a model based on principles of a gift economy, involving trust and reciprocity. We ask businesses we support for donations to enable us to support the next cohort. There is no expectation about the size of donations and we help those who can’t afford to contribute as well. We top up those donations with other grants where possible, to ensure that costs will never be a disincentive to starting a journey to zero.

We are particularly inspired in our work by the impacts of climate on the most vulnerable. Te Puni Kokiri states: ***“Despite Māori households having similar exposure to climate hazards as the overall population, they are projected to face greater risks due to a higher proportion of Māori households at risk related to poverty, health disparities, justice and protection concerns.”***

[\(https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/02/16/climate-hearing-to-explore-catastrophic-treaty-breaches/\)](https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/02/16/climate-hearing-to-explore-catastrophic-treaty-breaches/)

### **3. ACTION & INSPIRATION**

Some key initiatives in the year are set out below:

### **Low-carbon Commute Project:**

This was our major involvement for the year. With transport comprising 61% of Nelson's emissions, and commuting to work being a large part of that, we proposed a project to NCC to support businesses and other organisations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from employees commuting to work (designated internationally as 'Scope 3' emissions).

We proposed working with 2 – 3 organisations with a total of around 1,000 employees to identify barriers and options and find solutions to drive behaviour changes which will lead to reducing emissions from employee commuting. This would involve surveys to determine how, and how far, employees currently commute, what they like about their current arrangements, and what would be needed to switch to a low-carbon alternative (e.g. walking, public transport, cycling, ride-share or working from home). The proposal was supported by NCC on this basis for the 2024-25 year.

Participation far exceeded all expectations. The initiative worked with 9 businesses/organisations and one school (total 3,289 employees, around 10% of the city's total), including Port Nelson, Health New Zealand Nelson Marlborough (includes Nelson Hospital), Sealord, Cawthron Institute, Nelmac Kūmānu, Nelson Airport, Bowater Motors Group, Tonkin + Taylor, and Pic's Peanut Butter.

Port Nelson: ***"Honestly, the Mission Zero Commuter Project came at the exact moment that I was trying to figure out the best way to do just that. It was so nice to not have to struggle to figure it all out and set it all up. Plus having it be part of a bigger regional effort makes it even cooler..."***

We delivered the following against the project outcomes:

1. Undertake commute-to-work travel surveys and run a focus group to understand barriers to active, low-carbon commuting.

- Achieved:
  - A. 10 surveys to 3300 employees in total (699 responses)
  - B. 8 focus groups (Health NZ Nelson Marlborough, Nelson Airport, Port Nelson, Sealord, Nelmac Kūmānu, Cawthron Institute, Bowater Toyota, Tonkin + Taylor)
  - C. Following employee surveys, reports created and shared with each participating organisation
  - D. Agreement from participant CEOs to repeat employee commute survey again

2. Reduce these Scope 3 emissions by incentivising active and low-emissions travel modes, including public transport.

- Achieved already or in businesses action plans:
  - A. Internal Action Plans designed by each of the participating businesses include commitment to activities such as:
  - B. Growing the internal and demo EV fleet
  - C. Introducing WorkRide initiative
  - D. Encouraging ride-sharing/car-pooling, particularly for those with access to company vehicles
  - E. Allowing for flexible work hours/ WFM opportunities
  - F. Providing showers and safe areas for bikes
  - G. Creating a team of low-carbon commute ambassadors
  - H. Hosting/promoting 'Bike to Work' breakfasts and 'Bus to Work' month
  - K. Exploring onsite EV/E-Bike charging and solar infrastructure + shifting car parks to incentivise EV use/dis-incentivise petrol/diesel vehicle use
  - L. Arrange and encourage take-up of commute clinics
  - M. Sharing low-carbon commute information via posters and intranet

3. Creation of a publicly available template for estimating commuting and transportation options to allow other organizations to utilize it effectively.

- Achieved:
  - A. Low-carbon commute Workbook developed and available on our website
  - B. Commute survey calculation spreadsheet and online Survey Monkey survey developed and now available for public use
  - C. Internal Action Planning template with Inspiration Menu developed and available on our website

4. Establish strong relationships with participating businesses and with Businesses for Climate Action for further climate action.

- A. Collaborative projects designed:
  - Swap One - information portal, app for tracing carbon savings, prizes for swapping to low carbon and individualise commute advice.
  - CEO Forum - 6 monthly CEO meetings to ensure internal support for the initiative and encourage participation.
  - Neighbourgood - business collaborations based on shared location aiming to improve active transport infrastructure.
- B. Investigated and shared opportunities associated with external low-commute transport options:
  - Bike Hub Nelson
  - Trippr (carpooling app.)

- Sustainable Transport Solutions for Nelson (Nelsust) bike maps
- MEVO (car share)
- BYD

C. Agreement from CEOs to continue involvement through the Swap One initiative for 2025-26

5. Run a solution-finding workshop for participating businesses and providers of active transport

- Achieved:
  - A. Full-day "Hackathon" (participant workshop) on 12 Feb 2025
  - B. 3 collaborative projects
  - C. 100 ideas in the Inspiration Menu

6. Support participating businesses with the implementation of identified solutions

- Achieved:
  - A. Actions plans developed and discussed with CEOs (internally and in CEO Forum)

7. Generate a case study that will be publicising the results

- Achieved:
  - A. Two case studies developed (Nelson Airport and Sealord).

Outcomes were tracked through:

1. Onboarding forms provided an initial understanding of measures already being taken to support employee low-carbon commuting
2. Measuring level of participation against expectations – excellent take-up:
  - Employee commute surveys (699 responses)
  - Pre & post Hackathon workshop surveys
  - Focus groups (8 held)
  - Meetings ~6-10 attendees p/session (NCC Grantee get-together - 31 Jul, project kick-off - 6 Sep, online catch-up - 11 Sep, media photo op - 17 Sep, post-Hackathon catch-up - 7 Apr)
  - Hackathon workshop (24 attendees)
  - CEO Forum (11 attendees)
    - Development of Action Plans
    - Commitment from CEOs to repeat employee commute surveys and CEO Forum event

Additional - coverage of the project

1. Media:

- [Employers sign up to tackle city's biggest source of emissions](#) (Stuff, 23 Sep 2024)
- [Switching to low carbon commuting even once a week 'can make a real difference](#) (The Press, 14 Dec 2024)
- [Carpooling app among CEOs' ideas to help cut emissions](#) (The Press, 26 Jun 2025)

2. Social media:

- [Green Commute Initiative launch announcement](#) (22 Aug 2024)
- [Initiative kick-off](#) (23 Sep 2024)
- [Tackling emission sources](#) (23 Sep 2024)
- [Switching to low-carbon commuting even once a week can make a real difference](#) (6 Dec 2024)
- [Christmas wrap-up](#) (19 Dec 2024)
- [Hackathon](#) (13 Feb 2025)
- [Dragon's Den presentation](#) (13 Mar 2025)
- [CEO Forum](#) (27 Jun 2025)

3. E-newsletters to our database: 2024

- Green Commute Initiative promo (21 Aug 2024)
- Green community onboarding e-newsletter (2 Sep 2024)
- Swap One recruitment email - incl. commute initiative summary (14 May 2025)

Conclusions

Tackling employee commuting is an easy and effective entry point for conversations about low-carbon business practices. It's low cost, doesn't require significant resources, and offers opportunities to build team spirit and morale.

However, meaningful change doesn't happen overnight. Barriers to low-carbon commuting often relate to infrastructure — both internal (e.g. access to showers and secure bike parking) and external (e.g. safe cycleways and reliable bus routes); cultural alignment (such as the role of vehicles in personal or corporate identity); financial flexibility (like the ability to purchase bikes through the Workride scheme); and logistics (e.g. commuting with children or navigating night shifts).

Our experience has shown that awareness-raising alone is not enough. Change must be internally driven and sustained over time. Surveys from our participants revealed that 100% believed senior leadership buy-in was essential to making real progress.

Our CEO Forum, held in June 2025, was developed in direct response to this insight — and achieved promising results. Leaders committed to progressing the action plans, repeating the employee commute survey, and reconvening in six months to continue momentum. The CEO Forum also created a firm deadline for action plans and allowed our business contacts to elevate the work through the necessity of a post-event CEO briefing session.

We are now looking forward to continuing this work with these businesses and others through the *Swap One* project planned for Jul 2025-Jun 2026.



[Low-carbon Commute Initiative profiled on front page of Nelson Mail / Stuff](#)

(L-R): Adrienne Kozlowski (Tonkin + Taylor), Bruce Gilkison (Mission Zero), Daniela Stringer (Sealord), Annabel Scaife (Sealord), Shannon Holroyd (Port Nelson), Robyn Munro (Nelmac Kūmānu), Natalie Gilbert (Mission Zero), Katrina Taylor-Hewitt (Cawthron Institute), Marta Karlik-Neale (Mission Zero). Image: Nelson Mail

Many thanks to presenters at the Hackathon: – Lucy Byrne, Jon Lasenby, Daniela Ramirez, Nina Griffith, Benjamin Walch, Belinda van Eyndhoven (Westpac) and Abbie Reynolds (Nature Conservancy Aotearoa).

A Network Tasman Community grant helped extend the reach of the project in the Tasman District.

NCC Climate Change Programme Coordinator:

***“Kia ora Natalie, Marta and Bruce,***

***Thank you for this very comprehensive and impressive report. We were really pleased with how the low-carbon commute project played out amongst the business community and we appreciate being involved in the process.***

*You've demonstrated some useful results and information to show the barriers to change, but also some great opportunities which could be applied across a number of different organisations. All the best with your next project! Ngā mihi"*

Port Nelson: *"I (and thus the Port) have benefited so much from the Mission Zero Sessions for hearing ideas and just connecting with people from all over try to tackle the same issues..."*

#### **'Swap One' Collaboration:**

Our Low-carbon Commute project led directly to a collaboration with NTCF and Nelsust, aimed at further reductions in transport emissions in Nelson Tasman including those involving schools, from the 2025-26 year. We have had a number of effective planning sessions with these groups from January to June 2025, but the fruits of these will be seen following the launch of this programme, planned for September 2025.

#### **Carbon Clinics:**

Mission Zero supports businesses directly by offering 1:1 support which provides specific help and guidance to suit the organisation's needs, over a short or long-term period. Two such clinics were conducted this year and more are anticipated in future.

#### **Networking & Connections:**

Active links are maintained with NCC (including James Hills, Daniela Ramirez, Sarah Stephens), TDC (Jane Murray), NTCF (Joanna Santa-Barbara, Jim Sinner), Nelsust (Peter Olorenshaw), Benjamin Walch, Bluemoth (Lucy Byrne), Maranga Ltd. (Jon Lasenby), Nina Griffith.

BCA/MZ has partnered with sustainability advisors Bluemoth and Sustainable Business Network to support monthly 'Green Drinks' for local business people and members of our wider community focused on sustainability issues.

We have regular connections with Climate Action Marlborough, a like-minded Te Taihū group.

Bruce is involved in, and helps to maintain a BCA connection with the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum and Zero Carbon Nelson Tasman.

Most of our 2024-25 workshops were supported by Tonkin + Taylor which provided venues and other facilities, as well as Kono Wines and Chia Sisters who sponsored drinks, and photographers Tim Cuff and John-Paul Pochin.

#### **Media:**

Many of our activities, including on the Low-carbon Commute project and our work with company CEOs were reported in local and national media.

Bruce wrote regularly for *Acuity* this year, a magazine for accountants and business leaders in NZ, Australia and several other countries. Topics included Australia and NZ's Nationally Determined Commitments; business emissions and reduction targets; and more sustainable business travel (including a summary of our Low-carbon Commute project).

#### **Advocacy:**

BCA submitted on the draft Whakatū Nelson Climate Change Strategy, including speaking at the hearings in May 2025. This helped shape the final Strategy, which was adopted by Nelson City Council on 3 July 2025.

## **4. KNOWLEDGE & TOOLS**

### **Measurement & Management:**

Our work to date has included assessing and recommending the best (i.e. most accessible, economic and effective) tools and sources of useful information available and advocating the use of these, rather than inventing new wheels.

These include the 'Climate Action Toolbox', a Circular Economy Directory, and our 'Mission Insights' video series of interviews on our MZ website. We meet or correspond with the Sustainable Business Network, Chapter Zero, Institute of Directors (Nelson branch), Nelson Tasman Climate Forum, B-Corp, NCC, TDC, NTCC and NRDA to share information about relevant tools, events or news.

We are also developing our own tools including templates for carbon calculation spreadsheets, emissions reduction plans and the Low-carbon Commute Workbook.

### **Communications:**

We aim to keep our communications free of 'noise', with a strong focus on issues directly related to reducing carbon emissions in Te Taihū. As such our LinkedIn and e-newsletter channels are utilised as relevant stories and events arise, with about 16 e-newsletters and almost 70 LinkedIn posts in the year. Our two websites work together to drive our message, with MZ's site as the activator, and the BCA site providing information on the organisation itself.

Websites are updated regularly for BCA and MZ. These are kept bright, informative and user-friendly, providing links to our various projects.

## **5. SOME KPIs & OUTCOMES**

### **Volunteer Hours:**

A key strength is BCA/MZ's ability to attract and engage highly-skilled and motivated volunteers, helping to build understanding, skills and momentum in climate-related issues in the Nelson Tasman community. Time provided *pro bono* in 2024-25 is estimated at 2,500+ hours, which includes Trustees' time, about 12 facilitators and workshop speakers, various communications writing projects, funding applications, promotion and presentations, and the services of accounting and legal professionals.

### **People 'reached':**

Numbers reached or engaged with can be difficult to quantify. Attendances at workshops, conferences and meetings which BCA/MZ was involved in, plus online group sessions and consultations, were estimated at around 500 in the year. Our low carbon commute programme reached over 3000 employees - 10% of Nelson's workforce. Our own e-newsletters (database 500), LinkedIn and associated social media, including through our partner channels, might be seen by several thousand. Those reached through articles and other media coverage are likely to be in the tens of thousands. (*Acuity* magazine, for example, has 90,000+ subscribers; for this purpose we could perhaps assume that at least one third of subscribers read these articles = 30,000+.) Articles in *Stuff* also have wide readership (2.6 million per month!) but with arguably less chance that an MZ news item will be read. The total 'reached' is therefore perhaps conservatively estimated at 40,000+.

It is noted that such audiences may be spread over a broad area, nationally and further afield, and not be limited to Te Taihū.

### **Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided:**

Carbon emissions avoided are one of the most difficult of all KPIs to estimate. (We note that an Auckland-based climate-focused business support group which had reported emission reductions as a factor of numbers 'reached' in the previous year did not report this in the current year.)

Sample surveys, statistics and case studies from our Low-carbon Commute project are included on our MZ website (links on <https://missionzero.nz/mission-zero-low-carbon-commute-initiative/>)

Emissions reductions will also include those linked to earlier programmes such as Climate Leaders, though these might not eventuate until subsequent periods (e.g. the savings from initiatives such as the 'Refill Revolution' or 'Strawlines' low-carbon construction, or savings arising from online group presentations or podcasts may become apparent over several years, and ultimately would be reported by the organisations themselves).

Other savings will arise from the use of measurement and mitigation tools used by businesses which have been nudged in that direction, by BCA/MZ programmes, workshops and networking groups, through one-on-one consultations, and conferences we have been involved in.

Our 'Countdown to Zero' series resulted in a significant acceleration of carbon emissions measurement and commitment to reduction plans by participants.

Programme surveys show a clear increase in participant understanding of climate change, its impact, and appropriate response tactics, with responders describing the need to get over their initial 'too hard' barriers, to network with others, to 'check that we're doing it right', and to ask questions and

gain knowledge as primary reasons for seeking support from us. It is intended that some emission reductions achieved by participants will be shared on our website in future.

In all our involvements, the goals have been to encourage, inspire, help and normalise the measurement and mitigation of emissions, as a key part of doing business in Te Taihū.

## **6. FINANCES**

Businesses for Climate Action Trust is registered as a not-for-profit organization (No. 50087429, from December 2021). Further to this, the Trust was assessed and granted Registered Charity status (Registration number CC60311, from June 2022).

Support from Nelson City Council over several years to date, was vital in getting us started and has enabled some big steps forward. Their grant of \$20,000 in July 2024 enabled the Low-carbon Commute project to proceed.

The previous support of NTCC in assistance with financial management (up to their loss of a staff member in July 2024) was greatly appreciated. From then we have been delighted that JAS Accounting & Advisory Services in Nelson (previously Johnston Associates, who had assisted with our financial reporting from 'Day 1') have assumed this role. The support of NRDA and of NTCF for various collaborations over several years has also been valuable.

A grant of \$2,000 was received from Tasman District Council in support of our emission reduction work (October 2024). A grant of \$3,000 was received from the Network Tasman Charitable Trust (October 2024). Clyde Graham Charitable Trust donated \$5,000 (February 2025). Rātā Foundation provided a donation of \$4,000 (March 2025).

Port Nelson made a welcome contribution towards the costs of the Low-carbon Commute project. Lyttelton Port Company contributed to the cost of assistance given on their commuter survey.

Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 showed a Net Surplus of \$8,465.

## **7. CHALLENGES**

Several significant challenges for Mission Zero and for local organisations have been identified this year:

- Most Te Taihū businesses now appreciate the benefits of being proactive on climate issues, but struggle to find time, resources and available personnel to focus on these. Our aim is to assist, and to help make this process simple, effective, affordable and collaborative.
- Appreciation of the need to measure and report impacts is being greatly accelerated by NZ's Climate-related Financial Disclosures requirements. In theory the rules apply to only about 200 of NZ's largest organisations. But the reality is that these large entities prefer to do business with other organisations which follow the same rules, and increasingly customers and the rest of the value chain will expect this too. More than 80% of NZ's exports by value

go to countries with climate-related disclosure rules in force or currently proposed. Awareness among SMEs of these needs will continue to accelerate and drive action. Where possible, we will support, encourage and enable them to act.

- Despite generous *pro bono* assistance from highly skilled experts in a range of fields, and financial support for projects, there is a significant workload for Trustees, especially as projects are undertaken for the first time and as time is required for grant applications. Support received is always greatly appreciated and treasured!

## 8. LOOKING FORWARD

Three events immediately following our June 30 reporting date - one global and two local - provide additional inspiration and urgency for our mahi:

- The International Court of Justice, the world's highest court, determined that countries have obligations to protect the climate and take action to prevent climate harm both inside and outside their own boundaries. This ruling is likely to have significant implications for businesses, organisations and emissions over time, as well as for governments world-wide.
- Closer to home, Nelson City Council adopted a Climate Change Strategy which included a target of reducing gross emissions (other than biogenic methane) by an average of 8.3% per year. We consider the strategy is both ambitious and achievable. With businesses responsible for the largest share of Nelson's GHG emissions - 78% for Industry - this is the source with the greatest potential for savings.
- Severe weather and flooding events in Tasman and Nelson in June and July 2025 are likely to have been worsened by global heating, which can increase atmospheric water vapour levels. The events highlight the need to cut emissions wherever possible. Our heartfelt sympathies to those impacted.

For the future, we have significant and urgent issues to address, and valuable opportunities to pursue:

1. **There is an on-going need for funding to support MZ's work.** Without secure financial support the organisation's current level of activity could be reduced, with the current momentum at risk of being diminished. Our hope is to secure **operational** funding, to provide greater certainty for the future and to free-up more time for trustees and experts to focus on emissions-reduction projects and outcomes.
2. NCC has approved funding for MZ to run **four workshops/webinars that engage with Nelson's highest emitting businesses** in 2025-26, and to support them in understanding and reducing their carbon emissions. Goals include direct engagement with 40 - 80 businesses, and indirect connections with 1,000 businesses through our website and social media channels.

3. NCC has also approved funding jointly to MZ, NTCF and Nelsust for the second phase of the **Low-carbon Commuting** to workplaces (branded 'Swap One', to encourage low-emissions commuting on at least one day per week) and to schools (branded 'Travel Friendly'). NCC had previously established that transport (industrial and households) is responsible for 61.1% of Nelson's total gross GHG emissions.
4. **Other programmes**, as shown in our Strategy Visualisation (following) will also be vigorously pursued, subject to suitable financial support. We are especially focusing on growing our 101 advice support for the businesses following the gift economy model.

We relish the upcoming challenges and opportunities.

## **TRUSTEES**

**Florence Van Dyke** is co-founder and director of Chia Sisters, a solar-powered, climate-positive, B Corp beverage company based in Nelson. She has a Masters of Laws and in 2023 she was named as one of 9 Global Women Asia Sustainability Fellows. Florence was Global Head of Sustainability at NZ Trade and Enterprise, for 3 years to April 2025. She is now an Executive Director for sustainable business consultancy Canbury, based in Sydney.

**Bruce Gillison** is a chartered accountant, and has worked in Canada, East Africa, Scotland, the Pacific and NZ. He was advanced to Fellowship by Chartered Accountants Australia NZ in recognition of his advocacy for sustainability and action on climate and biodiversity over several decades. He is a regular invited writer for *Acuity* magazine for business leaders and accountants in Australia and NZ.

**Marta Karlik-Neale** has over 20 years of climate & sustainability experience in Europe & NZ, including with several major Councils, Z Energy, KiwiRail, Meridian & Foodstuffs, and has recently been Sustainability & Resilience Principal with Tonkin + Taylor. She specialises in sustainability strategy, mitigation, adaptation, & stakeholder engagement, with a particular focus on climate, carbon & emissions reduction. She has MScs in Environmental Science & in International Economics.

## **SUPPORTERS – THANK YOU!**

**Organisations:** Nelson City Council, Tasman District Council, Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce, Nelson Tasman Climate Forum, Nelson Regional Development Agency, Wakatū Inc, Chia Sisters, Kono, Tonkin + Taylor, Client Legal Solutions (previously Knapps), JAS Accounting & Advisory Services (previously Johnston Associates), Tasman Environmental Trust, Cawthron Institute, Nelmac Kūmānu, Zero Carbon Nelson Tasman, Resilienz, Sustainable Business Network, Nelsust, Rātā Foundation, Network Tasman Charitable Trust, Bowater Motors Ltd, NBS, Chapter Zero/Institute of Directors, Port Nelson, Sealord, Nelson Airport, NMDBH, Broadgreen Intermediate School, Pic's Peanut Butter, Repost.

**People:** Abbie Reynold, Adrian Ferris, Adrienne Kozlowski, Ali Boswijk, Andrew Clancey, Annabel Scaife, Ashley Messenger, Aaron Stallard, Arturo Neale, Ben Douglas, Belinda van Eyndhoven,

Benjamin Welch, Caitlin Attenburrow, Camille O'Donoghue, Catherine van der Meulen, Chloe van Dyke, Doug Paulin, Charlotte Holdaway, Daniela Stinger, Dansy Coppell, Grant Andrews, Fiona Wilson, Gareth Power Gordon, Heath Wilkins, Jan Hania, Jim Sinner, Joanna Santa Barbara, Johny O'Donnell, Jon Lasenby, Judene Edgar, Kate Molineaux, Katrina Taylor-Hewitt, Karen Driver, Kate Robertson, Katherine Garvis, Kylie Matthews, Kurt Clayworth, Laureen McLean, Lorraine Whitmarsh, Lucia Catalina, Burtnik Urueta, Jesse Wise, Josh Leenhouders, Kerensa Johnston, Lauren Walker, Linda Cardiff, Lindsay Wood, Lisa Bridson, Livia Esterhazy, Lucy Byrne, Michael Stocker, Nettie Stow, Nina Griffith, Paige Riddell-Phillips, Dr Paula Short, Peter Olorenshaw, Rachael Williams-Gaul, Rachel Borlase, Robyn Munro, Richard Butler, Rikki Smith, Rob Simcic, Shannon Holroyd, Stacey Fellows, Suzi McAlpine, Tony Bowater, Trevor Salter, Vanessa Neven, Vanessa Stutz, Zoe Moulam, Zoie Bryce.

Special thanks to all members of the NCC and TDC Climate teams, especially Daniela Ramirez, Sarah Stephens, James Hills and Jane Murray, and to members of our CEO Forum: Brendan Cook (Nelson Airport), Matt McDonald (Port Nelson), Doug Paulin (Sealord), Lindsay Coll (Nelmac Kümänu), Volker Kuntzsch (Cawthron Institute), Penny Kneebone (Tonkin+Taylor), Tony Bowater (Bowater Motors Group), Lexie O'Shea (Group Director Operations, Health New Zealand|Te Whatu Ora).

Also to Natalie Gilberd our Chief Action Officer who worked for Mission Zero on contract , and also as a sponsor through her Community Engagement consultancy business GOLD/LASH, throughout the year. Her energy, creativity, positivity and services 'over and above' have been hugely appreciated.

And many others from our wonderful supportive Te Tauihu community for their moral support, energy, enthusiasm, for sharing our goals, and for striving for a better future.



Low-carbon Commute full-day Hackathon, February 2025: Participants of the Low-carbon Commute Initiative come together for a day of solution-finding and optimistic brainstorming / Images: Tim Cuff



[CEOs of organisations participating in the Low-carbon Commute Initiative join us for a CEO Breakfast forum](#)

June 2025, (L-R): Brendan Cook (Nelson Airport), Matt McDonald (Port Nelson), Doug Paulin (Sealord), Adrian Ferris (CFO Nelson Airport), Lindsay Coll (Nelmac Kümänu), Volker Kuntzsch (Cawthron Institute), Penny Kneebone (Tonkin+Taylor), Tony Bowater (Bowater Motors Group), Lexie O'Shea (Group Director Operations, Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora) / Image: Tim Cuff