

# Newsletter

STAY IN THE LOOP WITH UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS!

## AT A GLANCE

- What's new at KUMA this month
- Introducing you our 2023 Board Members
- Recent events that have been happening across our Southern region
- Board meeting summary
- Community news
- Chair's diary for the month
- Take a look at upcoming events KUMA has planned
- Introducing you Awarua Synergy - KUMA's members of the month
- KUMA Community

## What's New



### KUMA's most recent members

We want to extend a warm welcome to our new members who have joined recently. We are thrilled to have you on board and look forward to getting to know you better.



[www.hekate.nz](http://www.hekate.nz)



[www.facebook.com/Shemeanzbusiness](https://www.facebook.com/Shemeanzbusiness)



[kjgrowth.com](http://kjgrowth.com)



[plumbsouth.co.nz](http://plumbsouth.co.nz)



[www.southernbuilding.co.nz](http://www.southernbuilding.co.nz)

# Board Members



Introducing you to KUMA's 2023 Board Members



**Claire Porima Chair (Ōtepoti)**  
Director: Claire Porima Life Coaching



**Karen Roos Treasurer (Ōtepoti)**  
Senior Advisor: Te Puni Kōkiri



**Amber Bridgeman (Ōtepoti)**  
Director: Kahawai Clothing Ltd



**Ronda Tokona (Ōtepoti)**  
Senior Solicitor: Business South Inc



**Corey Ford (Ōtepoti)**  
Director: Laser Plumbing Ltd



**Karmela Rapata (Tāhuna)**  
Director: Check In Ltd



**Maria Rapata (Tāhuna)**  
Director: Check In Ltd



**Celia Crosbie (Wānaka)**  
Director: Scope Media NZ Ltd



**Janice Lee (Murihiku)**  
Director: Timata Technologies Ltd  
Founder: Koha Kai

# Recent Events



Check out what the KUMA community has been up to recently

**Digital Boost** - Digital boost is your FREE one-stop shop for information on Digital Tools. Whether you're new to digital tools or wanting to take them a step further, there's something for you.

KUMA's Digital Boost Facilitation Program is FREE and still has spaces available.

Contact: [mel@kuma.co.nz](mailto:mel@kuma.co.nz) for more information

## Tāhuna Breakfast Hui 16th June hosted by Tuatahi Creatives



Ngā mihi nui to Tuatahi Creatives for hosting such a successful breakfast.

# Board Meeting Summary



**Here is a brief summary that was discussed at this month's board hui**

KUMA Chair and Treasurer attended an inaugural hui of regional Māori business networks hosted by MBIE in Wellington. The Board heard that MBIE plan to hold monthly hui with networks across the motu, with a view to collaboration and building the collective impact that advances Māori business and the Māori economy. This is an exciting development and one the Board fully supports.

KUMA will work alongside the Otago Business School to have a tauira Māori rep attend our Board hui to contribute a rangatahi voice around the Board table, experience governance in action with a Māori kaupapa, and for creating business connections. The Board looks forward to this engagement.

An updated list of trades businesses who are connected to KUMA has been passed on to Southbase Construction for the new Dunedin Hospital build. The Board encourages other businesses to contact us so that KUMA can facilitate opportunities and potential sub-contracts.

A membership process system is being developed to ensure new engagement with KUMA is fast and efficient.

KUMA has a catch up planned with local mana whenua in Wānaka to establish how they can work together.

KUMA recently received approval from TPK for \$150,000 to assist with social procurement opportunities through providing cadets with professional development funding for trades and other businesses. This is the second tranche of funding KUMA has been able to distribute, with 30 Māori businesses receiving this vital PD support.

# Community News



Check out what the KUMA community has achieved recently

Our sincere congratulations go out to Shay & Ksenia from @ridetothetkyqueenstown for coming in seventh in New Zealand! Highly deserving.



Another huge congratulations to our board member Corey Ford's business Laser Plumbing for winning three awards for 2023 Champion of Change Award, 2023 Marketing Excellence Award and 2023 Business of the year. Ka rawe!



# Chair's diary for the month:



He Kākano - Māori Business network hui with Te Kupenga, Māori Economic Development Unit, MBIE, Wellington: MBIE invited 2 people from each Māori Business Network around the country for this first national hui. The draft for the next iteration of He Kai Kei Aku Ringa was presented. Participants discussed how their Networks were set up and their activities. Future partnerships were proposed. Agreement was reached for regular hui, with funding support from MBIE for these.

Otago RSLG Māori Sub-Committee Hui with mana whenua: KUMA is represented on the Otago Regional Skills Leadership Group and an important meeting was held with rūnaka representatives from Ōtākou, Puketeraki and Moeraki, hosted at Aukaha. RSLG provided an introduction to regional data that has been recently 'unlocked' with more information on Māori workforce able to be provided. Rūnaka provided their views on developing the Māori economy in this region, and the focus for the hui was on how RSLG could support those aims and objectives.

Regional Business Partners: KUMA met with MBIE locally based Project Lead, Hayden Raw, and Simon Phillips from Piripi Consulting Group who are working on a future operating model for RBP. We were able to feed in some of the challenges and opportunities for Māori businesses working with RBP, and if our members have any views they want to share, please get in touch with our Chair, Claire Porima.

# Chair's diary for the month cont.

Amotai New Hospital Build Impact Report: KUMA had several hui with Amotai to discuss how the NHB might be an opportunity to build capability and capacity as well as future contracts for Māori businesses in this region. A full report is expected soon.

Otago RSLG Hui, Queenstown: KUMA participation in the monthly hui. RSLG had a substantive briefing on economic developments in the Queenstown region from economist Benje Patterson; an update from Mahi QL on progress to date on creating a Queenstown Lakes workforce plan; and a briefing on the Queenstown Diversification Strategy from Peter Harris.

# What's Next



## Upcoming events at KUMA

KUMA warmly invites you to attend the following events we have planned below, keep an eye out in your emails for more information.

- Ōtepoti Breakfast Hui @ Starfish Cafe 07/07/2023 7:15am-8:30am
- Murihuki Hui @ Koha Kai 13/07/2023 6:00pm-8:00pm
- Tāhuna Hui @ 33 Buckingham Street Arrowtown 12/07/23 7pm-9pm

# Member of the Month



## Introducing Awarua Synergy Ltd



## MEMBER PROFILE



AWARUA SYNERGY

**PROFILE**

2023



### Introducing...

We are excited to introduce one of our Murihuku KUMA members - Awarua Synergy.

As a member of KUMA, you bring a unique perspective and set of experiences that enrich our community. We believe that by working together, we can achieve great things and make a positive impact to our whanau.

Once again, thank you for being a valued member of KUMA. We look forward to continuing this journey together.

### About...

Proudly born in Murihuku, Awarua Synergy has searched the world for the best energy and eco-power solutions for the Deep South. Now, they are leading suppliers and installers of cost-effective, energy-efficient products for the homes, farms, and businesses of the region.

Awarua Synergy was created out of the Bluff Healthy Homes project, run by Awarua Research and Development.

Sumaria Beaton is proud to be the General Manager at Awarua and works alongside an amazing team.

Awarua Synergy Ltd is a company from Murihuku that KUMA is proud to introduce.

They are your neighbourhood specialists if you're seeking for warmer, brighter, more energy-efficient buildings or simply trying to identify ways to lower your power cost. Awarua Synergy, proudly born in Southland, has scoured the globe for the greatest energy solutions to offer our Deep South.

Contact Sumaria at 032142927 or [synergy@awarua.org.nz](mailto:synergy@awarua.org.nz) with any more questions or enquiries.



# Reach Out



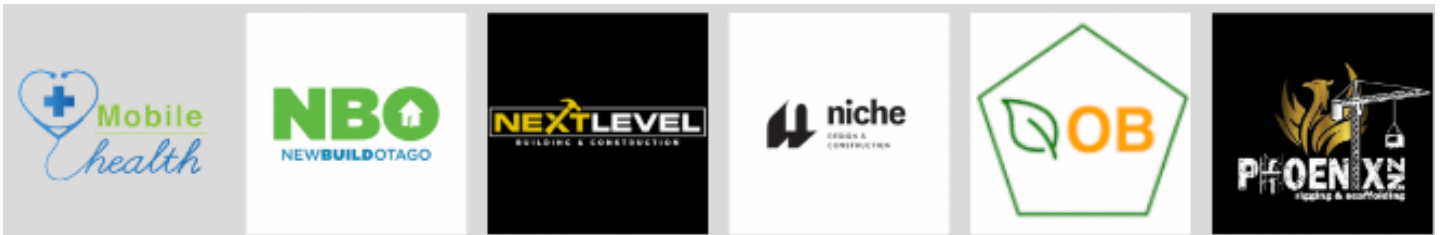
## We are here to listen

For questions, feedback, article ideas, or story contributions, email [kuma@kuma.co.nz](mailto:kuma@kuma.co.nz), and we'll be in touch.

# Our Community

"Kia Tipua Tahī Ai"  
Let Us Grow Together

Find out more about KUMA's business community



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