

Media release 1 September 2020

# Public vote will pick the winner of a new pandemic resilient business award

Judges for the 2020 Sustainable Business Awards have announced this year's 86 finalists across 11 categories, and are now calling for entries for a special additional award.

The new Resilience in Crisis Award has been created to recognise business resilience in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. It's focused on successful responses with sustainability outcomes. Independent judges will select the finalists, with the winner chosen by public vote.

Rachel Brown is founder and CEO of the Sustainable Business Network, which has run the awards for 18 years. She paid tribute to the quality of all the entrants so far, in what has been a difficult year.

She says: "2020 has been a massive upheaval for Aotearoa and particularly for business – nothing is 'business as usual' anymore. These Awards are more important than ever as they recognise how businesses have pivoted and are radically changing their models. They're discovering entirely new ways of doing business sustainably. Our Resilience in Crisis award is designed to celebrate the best of those."

Meridian General Manager Corporate Affairs and Sustainability Claire Shaw says the company is particularly proud to be Awards Partner this year.

"We know many businesses have been heavily impacted by the pandemic and we are proud to support and recognise innovative New Zealanders. Meridian is committed to playing our part to help support the opportunities that will deliver sustainable economic and environmental outcomes for Aotearoa."

The <u>Resilience in Crisis</u> award is free to enter, and entries are open until 19 September. Entries to all other categories of the Awards are now closed.

The winners for all categories will be announced at a ceremony in November. In response to the ongoing pandemic, the ceremony is set to be broadcast online via regional events up and down the country, rather than the familiar large gala dinner in Auckland.

Find out more about the Resilience in Crisis award: <u>sustainable.org.nz/resilience-in-crisis-award/</u>

#### The finalists for the 2020 Sustainable Business Awards are:

# Sustainability Superstar

Sponsored by NZI

Gary and Adrienne Dalton, Te Whangai Trust Christine Langdon, The Good Registry Rhys Miller, Ahika Consulting David Trubridge, David Trubridge Sarah Smuts-Kennedy, For the Love of Bees Steve West, ChargeNet

## **Change Maker**

Ged Finch, X-Frame & Victoria University of Wellington Francesca Goodman-Smith, Foodstuffs NZ Ursula Griffen, independent Jacinta Gulasekharam, Dignity NZ Aleshia Johnson, Kōaka Jayden Klinac, For The Better Good Patrick Moynahan, Computer Recycling Alice Rule, 3sixty2 Bridget Williams, Bead and Proceed

# **Communicating for Impact**

Sponsored by Kind&Co

All Heart NZ
Beca
NZ Post
Predator Free Wellington
Remix Plastic
The Hawea Grove
Waste Free with Kate

# Social Impactor Sponsored by MAS

Connect Chiropractic
Dignity
Humanitix
Pathfinder Asset Management
Predator Free Wellington
Raglan Food Co
Sustainability Trust
The Sleep Store
Whenua Iti Outdoors

### **Going Circular**

#### Sponsored by Auckland Council

Again Again
Better Packaging Co
Deja
Fonterra Cooperative Group
Foodprint
Milk 2.0
NZ King Salmon
Wholly Cow
Why Waste
X Frame

#### **Climate Action Leader**

#### Sponsored by EECA

Ahika Consulting
Fonterra Cooperative Group Ltd - biomass boiler
Foodstuffs NZ
Open Country Dairy
Soar
Suncorp

### **Climate Action Innovator**

Sponsored by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency

Auckland Council – FutureFit Big Street Bikers Blue Cars Carbon Click Cityhop CoGo The Formary

## **Outstanding Collaboration**

#### Sponsored by Toitū Envirocare

All Heart NZ BNZ and Good Shepherd Elastomer Products and Scion Foodstuffs and CHEP Jacobsen Meat the Need Predator Free Dunedin Student Volunteer Army

#### **Tech for Good**

Auckland Council – FutureFit Carbon Click CoGo Kathmandu Mutu Reemi RiverWatch Student Volunteer Army

#### Sustainable Coastlines

#### **Good Food**

#### Sponsored by New World

Bostock Brothers
Common Unity Project Aotearoa
Foodprint
Kaicycle
Miraka
Raglan Food Co
Sealed Air
The Fermentist
Yum Granola

## **Restoring Nature**

Sponsored by Department of Conservation

Conservation Volunteers NZ Hanging Gardens Lake Hawea Station Natural Habitats Landscapes Tahi Watercare

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