

## Patron's message

It is a great pleasure to serve as inaugural Patron of the Epilepsy Waikato Charitable Trust. Warm thanks are due to Jill Davies and her dedicated trust board executive members, and to Maria Lowe, our indefatigable Epilepsy Adviser. They have risen to many challenges and collectively provide an excellent standard of care and support to those who live with epilepsy in our region.

Most if not all charitable organisations have struggled in the tight fiscal environment of recent years, with considerable time and energy being required for the never-ending task of lodging funding applications and seeking financial support in a myriad of ways. I am sure we all gratefully acknowledge the fine efforts of those who have worked so hard to raise the funds needed to enable the EWCT to provide vital epilepsy services throughout the Waikato.

Early in 2014 we were all deeply saddened by news of the death of Paul Manning, a long-time committee member and President of the former Epilepsy Waikato organisation. It was an approach from Paul seeking my assistance soon after I was first elected to Parliament that led to my involvement with the forerunner to the EWCT, and I am sorry that the injustices he brought to my attention at that time remained unresolved at the time of his death. Those of us who were privileged to attend Paul's funeral at the Anglican Cathedral in Hamilton heard wonderful tributes from his family, friends and colleagues attesting to his love of his family and his unstinting support for a number of deserving organisations. We will continue his work for our epilepsy community inspired by his fine example and in his memory.

I am proud to remain closely associated with the office holders and members of the EWCT, and I am committed to helping to advance the interests of the Trust and its members in any way that I can as your Patron.

Very best wishes,

### Tim Macindoe

Patron, Epilepsy Waikato Charitable Trust  
MP for Hamilton West



**Tim Macindoe**  
MP FOR HAMILTON WEST  
Junior Government Whip

Parliament Buildings Room 1.105, Wellington 6160  
Tel: 04 817 8229 | Fax: 04 817 6447

5 King St, Frankton | PO Box 382, Waikato Mail Centre,  
Hamilton 3240 | Tel: 07 846 0055 | Fax: 07 846 0056  
[www.timmacindoe.co.nz](http://www.timmacindoe.co.nz)

**National**  
[www.national.org.nz](http://www.national.org.nz)



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