



Tim Macindoe

Member of Parliament for Hamilton West



August 2019

Patron's Message

Another year of service and community outreach has been given by all those involved with the Epilepsy Waikato Charitable Trust. The service and commitment willingly given by so many is greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

I was delighted that our Epilepsy Advisor, Maria Lowe, was recognised for her outstanding dedication and professional care, when she was awarded a Hamilton Civic Award last December. I'm sure all members will agree that Maria was a worthy recipient of this prestigious award which acknowledged her many years of support to those who live with epilepsy, and their families, as well as her effective engagement with the medical profession and kindred organisations. I was fortunate to be present at the ceremony at which Maria's Award was presented, and, as Patron of the Epilepsy Waikato Charitable Trust, I felt extremely proud.

I was also delighted to be present with members of the Board at the 2019 Volunteer Waikato Excellence Awards ceremony when the Board was awarded the Team Excellence Award. The warm reception of all present at the event to the announcement was a tangible endorsement of the judges' decision and I offer my hearty congratulations.

I was pleased to work with our indefatigable Epilepsy Advisor and some other EWCT members to present the petition to Parliament seeking support for a trial of the Ketogenic diet to be made available through the Waikato District Health Board, and I subsequently attended a meeting of Parliament's Health Select Committee at which Maria presented a compelling case for the trial to be approved and started. My Parliamentary colleagues from all parties expressed admiration for Maria's work and appreciated her clear and helpful answers to their many questions.

I am sorry that Parliamentary commitments in Wellington prevent me from attending the 2019 Annual General Meeting. I send warm greetings to all and grateful thanks for the on-going hard work of so many and for all that has been achieved.

Hon Tim Macindoe
Patron

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