$6M for Whanganui port and rail

WHANGANUI PORT REVITALISATION PROJECT

Manawatū-Whanganui regional leaders welcomed Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones’ announcement on Friday, February 23 of $6M from the government’s Provincial Growth Fund towards the revitalisation of the Whanganui Port and an upgrade of the Whanganui rail line.

Mayor Hamish McDouall said it is pleasing to have central government’s continued support and recognition of the port development and the significant contribution it will make to economic growth in the region.

“The Whanganui Port Revitalisation Programme includes multiple partners focused on revitalising Whanganui’s river mouth port and is one of the key projects in the Accelerate 25 Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Economic Action Plan.”

In December 2016, following a government contribution of $500,000 towards a blueprint for developing the area, a port masterplan was developed which incorporated ideas from local iwi and businesses, the marine industry, recreational users of the river and coastal area and the wider community.

“We are well placed for finalising our business case and getting this project moving,” says Mayor McDouall.

We also welcome the investment in the city’s rail line, as this vital link with the port and industry will assist with moving our region’s growing export volumes such as logs and dairy.

“Accelerate 25 lead team member Pahia Turia said the announcement is another positive step towards helping the region realise its potential.

“This includes creating jobs, lifting incomes and contributing to New Zealand’s GDP,” says Mr Turia.

“It’s important to acknowledge the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment for making this commitment to our region.

“The port development will not only provide economic benefits to the region, but also provide another place for locals and visitors to connect with Te Awa Tupua,” says Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui chair Gerrard Albert.

“Together with the hapu with interests in the river mouth we look forward to working with all stakeholders to ensure the project upholds the values of Te Awa Tupua.”

- To view the Whanganui Port Revitalisation Masterplan, visit www.whanganui.govt.nz/port
- To find out more about Accelerate 25, visit www.accelerate25.co.nz

What’s on at the Sarjeant

10 String Symphony

4.30pm, Sunday 4 March 2018, Sarjeant on the Quay, 38 Taupo Quay

Touring New Zealand and Australia from Nashville Tennessee, Rachel Baiman and Christian Sedelmyer of 10 String Symphony (pictured, below) present mesmerizing acoustic innovation with their five-string fiddles and vivacious musical voices.

“Old-time, folk and bluegrass, all delivered with a dash of rock and roll spark,” says American Songwriter Magazine.

Tickets $20.00, Gallery Friends & Stars $18.00 available from Sarjeant on the Quay or by phoning 349 0506.

A cash bar is available at the interval.

www.10stringsymphony.com

Creative Communities Scheme

Funding round open now

Applications for round 2 of the 2017/18 Creative Communities Scheme are now open. The Creative Communities Scheme is a partnership between Whanganui District Council and Creative New Zealand to support local arts projects.

Late in the year, details about drop-in sessions to find out more about the scheme and how to apply will be published on the Council website and in Community Link.

Applications close at 12.00pm noon on Thursday 19 April 2018. Projects must take place between 19 May 2018 and 19 May 2019. For more information please contact cathy@cathwatson.com

Community Link