

Funding Application for 3 WikiCon Weekends

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Background

The Wikimedia User Group of Aotearoa New Zealand https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikimedia_User_Group_of_Aotearoa_New_Zealand has set up a subcommittee to organise three in-person WikiCon events during 2021.

These events are weekend events aimed at

- Encouraging New Zealand editors of Wikipedia, Wikidata and Wikimedia Commons to meet up with and feel part of the wider New Zealand editor community in their local area and nationally. Promoting social connectedness.
- Encouraging and training new and developing editors to Wikipedia, Wikidata and Wikimedia Commons. Sharing experiences with editing and tools, assisting development of efficient and effective workflows.
- Encouraging interested people from underrepresented communities to start or restart editing.
- Aim is to increase diversity of the editing community. The underrepresented demographics include: Women, rural residents, Māori, Pacific peoples.
- Creating content to fill knowledge gaps related to New Zealand topics.

WikiCon West Coast 19-21 March 2021

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiCon_Aotearoa/West_Coast_2021

Hokitika was selected as there is a growing community of developing editors arising from the West Coast Wikipedian At Large project.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/WestCoastWPAL> This community will benefit from an influx of experienced editors from outside the West Coast. The West Coast is also a region that has previously been identified as not well represented in the Wikimedia Foundation platforms. The WikiCon weekend will focus on updating West Coast articles, data and creating media related to the West Coast. The WikiCon weekend will build on the outputs of the West Coast Wikipedian At Large project.

Auckland WikiCon 16-18 July 2021

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiCon_Aotearoa/Auckland_2021

Auckland was selected as Auckland War Memorial Museum is working to develop strong connections with the Wikipedia / Wikidata / Wikimedia Commons community.

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikicite/grant/Research_Records_of_T%C4%81maki_Paeng_a_Hira,_Auckland_War_Memorial_Museum.

While physical meetup groups exist in other main centres, Auckland editors do not currently meetup regularly. This WikiCon has a dual aim of growing the partnership with Auckland Museum and encouraging the Auckland editors to participate in the wider movement.

Wellington WikiCon 27-28 November 2021 (dates to be confirmed)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiCon_Aotearoa/Wellington_2021

Wellington was selected as there is a strong and experienced editorial group regularly meeting up and participating in the national user group.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Meetup/Wellington> The venue of Victoria University was targeted to encourage a stronger relationship with University tutors and, in particular, the digital humanities school.

Funding Request

The User group asks InternetNZ to fund \$1500 so that the User group can provide koha of up to \$250 per person (to a maximum of \$500 per event) to support those that would not otherwise be able to afford to attend these WikiCon events. The organising subcommittee will be responsible for allocating each of these koha. The organising subcommittee consists of:

Victoria Leachman <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/User:Einebillion>

Mike Dickison <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:Giantflightlessbirds>

Heather Knox <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:MurielMary>

Christine Richardson <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:Noracrentiss>

The organising subcommittee plans on keeping the qualification bar low. Applications will not need any previous experience in editing or contributing to the Wikimedia Foundation platforms. Nor will the application process be onerous - interest in attending a WikiCon and information on the applicants needs that the funding would meet will provide sufficient information for the subcommittee.

If this funding was granted - the User group would encourage applications as part of the promotion of the event. Selection would be by majority vote of the organising committee. Applicants would submit a short email application explaining how the funding would enable them to attend the event they would otherwise not be able to attend. Underrepresented demographics and new editor status will be more heavily weighted towards success.

Internet NZ memberships

The User group requests that InternetNZ also provide 9 x 1 year memberships to InternetNZ (3 per event) to be awarded to those who were stand out contributors to each of the events.

Declaration of other funding sources

The User group has rapid grant funding from the Wikimedia Foundation for the West Coast WikiCon.

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Grants:Project/Rapid/MurielMary/Aotearoa_New_Zealand_Wikipedia_20_Event This funding will cover the catering for all attendees for the weekend. The User group intends to apply for similar Wikimedia Foundation rapid grants to cover the catering costs of the two other WikiCon events. Auckland War Memorial Museum is

providing free venue space and is likely to provide additional support such as some of the catering costs for the Auckland event. Victoria University may provide a free venue space for the Wellington event.