

2 MINUTES WITH Jackson Lacy

Jackson Lacy is the youngest of three new members elected to the Tawa Community Board in the October 2019 local body election.

Parts of his election profile read: “I’m a university student and a current member of the Wellington City Youth Council [since late 2016], and I’m running for the Tawa Community Board. I believe in smart solutions to the big problems we face, in a diverse, forward-thinking Tawa, that truly values young people.

I support sensible higher-density housing as a response to population growth and the broken rental market. I support local solutions to the climate crisis, especially as parts of Tawa are already flooding. I believe in giving our most vulnerable people the help they need, so everyone is included in a vibrant Tawa.”

Jackson is chair of the grants subcommittee on the community board, he is the portfolio holder for youth, and shares the community development role.

Where were you born?

Wellington Hospital.

Where did you grow up?

Tawa, for all but my first six months.

Where were you educated?

First Hampton Hill Primary, then Scots College, and I’m now doing a BA in Māori Resource Management at Victoria.

How long have you lived in Tawa?

The overwhelming part of twenty years.

What do you like about Tawa? What would you like to see improved?

I really like our community spirit, the way we band together when things get tough, as we’ve just seen through the COVID-19 lockdown. I’d like to see us really focus on supporting our young and vulnerable people, reducing our environmental impact, and improving housing affordability.

What about family?

I’m the youngest of four half-siblings, my older brother living in Auckland and my older sisters in Australia – I’m a proud uncle five times over.

Work experience over the years

I’m predominantly a graphic designer by trade, mostly for print, but I’ve done plenty of video production, and I’ve been really involved with organising TEDxYouth events over the years.

What are your interests and hobbies?

I love playing and listening to music – I was in choirs all through high school – as well as cooking and going for bush walks.

Favourite sports team and/or sports person?

Phoenix home games are always fun, so I try to follow how they’re doing, and our very own Sophie Devine is absolutely smashing it in the cricket.



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Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?

I've been getting into Pink Floyd lately, and really enjoying their work, plus Lorde is amazing as ever.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

Great Barrier Island, northeast of Auckland – my dad built a bach up there decades ago, and I've been going there since I was a kid.

What accomplishments/achievements in your life give you the most satisfaction/pride?

Graduating high school, and being elected to the Community Board. The former was mostly satisfaction – Year 13 was a really stressful time for me and I worked really hard to get through it. Similarly, the [election] campaign was a big thing for me, but I'm now really proud to be able to serve the people of Tawa.

What are two or three interesting things about you that local people may not know?

I'm learning te reo Māori, I played football (badly) in high school, and I spent most of Easter weekend this year calling elderly people in Linden to see how they were going through lockdown.

What are two or three things you would like to do before you die?

Visit my whenua tūrangawaewae – the places my ancestors are from – in Ireland and at the top of Te Waipounamu;

Get married and start a family;

Learn to play the piano much better than I currently can.

(Compiled June 2020)