

## **2 MINUTES WITH .....** Jenny Condie

Jenny Condie is one of the three Wellington City councillors serving the Takapū/Northern Ward, all of whom, as it happens, live in Tawa. She was first elected to Council in the October 2019 local body election.

As Associate Transport portfolio leader, her Council responsibilities include parking, roading, safety and traffic resolutions.

Her online Council profile states: “Jenny has a strong interest in future-proofing Wellington against the effects of climate change, promoting housing affordability, and building inclusive and connected neighbourhoods that promote our physical and mental health.”



*Where were you born?*

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. It is a city about halfway between Toronto and Niagara Falls. My mum is Canadian. My dad is a Kiwi who studied and then later taught at McMaster University in Hamilton.

*Where did you grow up?*

We moved to Wellington when I was six and lived in Johnsonville until I was sixteen.

*Where were you educated?*

West Park School, Raroa Intermediate, Wellington Girls' College, Victoria University of Wellington, Lancaster University.

*How long have you lived in Tawa?*

Fifteen years. We bought our house here when we came home after a year overseas.

*What do you like about Tawa?*

I love that we have great facilities – swimming pool, library, playgrounds, schools, cafes, and the train line. It feels close to the city but it's relatively affordable to live here and there is a great sense of community.

*What about family?*

I've been married to Lucas for 16 years and we have two boys who are four and seven.

*Work experience over the years .....*

I worked at The Treasury for almost three years after I finished my Masters' degree. I taught accounting at Victoria University of Wellington while I was completing my PhD. I've also taught research methods to MBA students at Massey University. Now I'm delighted to be a Wellington City Councillor for Takapū/Northern ward.

*What are your interests and hobbies?*

I love to read. I'm just as likely to be reading a romance or fantasy novel as I am to be reading about leadership, economics, or history.

*Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?*

We played U2 and The Cure during our wedding ceremony. Brooke Fraser got me through a lot of hard times while working on my PhD.

*What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?*

Golden Bay.

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

I lived in Switzerland for a year as a high school exchange student where I learned to speak German. My grandmother Joyce Dunmore was also a city councillor – in Palmerston North during the late 60s and early 70s.

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

Do all the Great Walks of New Zealand;

Take the Ghan train from Darwin to Adelaide;

See Hamilton the Musical.

*(Compiled March 2020)*