

Generation Zero

Our Activity and Performance

2022



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Who we are

Generation Zero Incorporated (Generation Zero) is a registered New Zealand incorporated society. The organisation was incorporated on 3 August 2012 and our New Zealand Business Number (NZBN) is: 9429043318506.

We are a predominantly volunteer organisation of mostly young people passionate about advocating and promoting a zero carbon future that is resilient and equitable. We have a national campaign team and regional teams in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, typically consisting of two Co-Conveners and other members taking up various roles in local committees and campaigns. In 2020, we appointed a governance board who are also volunteers. In 2021, we changed the makeup of the governance board such that there would be two Co-Chairs (one must be tangata whenua) to balance the workload.

Our three paid part-time staff members include a National Administrator (contractor) and two Wellington Coordinators (employees).

Our mission statement and values are important to the work we do at Generation Zero and are centred in how we engage with the public, policymakers, our allies, and other organisations.

Mission Statement

Generation Zero is a youth-led climate action organisation. We organise campaigns that will mobilise New Zealanders to engage with decision-making and campaign for intergenerational climate justice.



Values

Rangatiratanga

Collaboration - Te Tiriti

As we work on a zero carbon future, we will collaborate with tangata whenua to ensure Aotearoa's success. This means committing to honouring and upholding Te Tiriti and amplifying the perspectives of tangata whenua.



Climate Justice

Compassion - Just transition - Manaakitanga - Honesty - Respect - Empathy - Intersectionality

As we go on this journey to create a just society, honesty, respect and empathy are with us every step of the way. This will ensure we have a dignified and just transition from fossil fuels. Centering and amplifying the voices of those impacted by transitions from fossil fuels and prioritising what they will need.

Friendship First

Active relationships - Wellbeing

Volunteering and advocacy are more than just a job. We are building a community of strong, reciprocal, active relationships that can hold us together as we face the future. Within Generation Zero and with our allies we aim to create a safe space where our relationships and wellbeing are prioritised.



Non Partisan

Solutions-focussed - Evidence-Based - Accountable - Knowledgeable

We support policies that help deliver our vision of a thriving, equitable future beyond fossil fuels, regardless of where they come from. The best solutions to the issues we face are ones in which all of us can participate; not just a single political party or ideology. When we work together in solidarity with one another; we can create a thriving world to live in.

Key Members

Board

Co-Chair: Eden Skipper (he/him) - Te Whanganui-a-Tara

Co-Chair: Dewy Sacayan (she/her) - Tāmaki Makaurau

Treasurer: Nina Welanyk-Brown (she/her) - Te Whanganui-a-Tara

Representatives:

National Campaign: Ina Kara-France* (she/her)

Tāmaki Makaurau: Siddharta Metha* (he/him) ➡ Olivia Yates (she/her)

Te Whanganui-a-Tara: Arron Cox* (he/him) ➡ Harry Winton (he/him)

Otago: Sheralee MacDonald (she/her)

Ōtepoti: Finn Campbell (he/him)

Convenors

Tāmaki Makaurau: Nola Smart (she/her); Dylan Wilson* (he/him); Joshua Bickler* (he/him)

Te Whanganui-a-Tara: Harry Winton* (he/him)

Otago: Roman Shmakov (he/him)



Ōtepoti:[^] Jett Gannaway (he/him)

National:[^] -

Paid Staff

Administrator: Jacqui Dickson* (she/her) ➡ Bridget Watson (she/her)

Wellington Coordinators: Tegan van der Peet (she/her) and Sandra Tran (she/her) ➡
Annalies Veldmeijer (they/them) and Janine Kaminski (she/her)

* Many key members of Generation Zero have moved overseas or stepped down due to various personal and professional reasons. Thus, where the Board saw the need to fill the role with a new representative, we recruited and held a re-election at an SGM to fill specific roles.

[^] Due to lack of national and regional campaigns in Ōtepoti, there has been no convenors in this region.

What we do

Performance Report

Generation Zero advocates and promotes a zero carbon future in many ways. There are two key measures that demonstrate our impact on mobilising New Zealanders to engage with decision-making and campaign for intergenerational climate justice.

Generation Zero has been consciously, deliberately and incrementally stepping away from a submission-focussed mobilisation actions and more towards organising long-term climate justice organisation. The conscious and deliberate decision to move from mobilisation to organisation will mean that Generation Zero will be less reactive to policies and decisions that have been made for youth and the planet. Rather, we will be more proactive in influencing and co-creating the societal, legal and economic shifts that we need to achieve climate justice.



In the short term, we have supported the following submissions on relevant plans and actively engaged with the public through the following campaigns:

Submissions, Campaigns and Public Engagements

Submissions

- Submissions on Auckland Council's Climate Action Targeted Rate, which was unanimously successfully passed.
- Publicly and orally submitted on the Resource Management Act (RMA) amendment to 'rapidly accelerate the supply of housing where the demand for house is high in order to help address some of the issues with housing choice and affordability
- Supported the Coalition for More Homes in their submission to the RMA amendment
- Supported the free fares campaign through creating a quick submission form, with 418 submissions sent through the Generation Zero form. This led to a [petition](#) being handed to parliament at the end of 2022.
- In 2022 Wellington City Council publicised for submissions on the Proposed District Plan. Generation Zero created a thorough submission founded in the legal perspectives to advocate the ways in which the district plan needed to uphold the RMA. This included advocating for: transit routes to Johnsonville, 15 minute catchment areas by train lines, no hard height limits for CBD, and reducing character areas that prevent densification. This resulted in providing a template for at least three ally organisations to submit, given that the inaccessibility of the district plan



- Wrote a submission for the Parliamentary inquiry for inter regional passenger rail, which we shared to our social media profiles to spread awareness. We wrote up [key points](#) for the public to use in a submission, and to email an MP about.
- Submitted a proposal to amend the Wellington Regional Policy Change to support climate action, accessibility, freshwater provisions and densification of urban development.
- Supported the Auckland Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway which will complement the Auckland Climate Action Targeted Rate in creating an inclusive, accessible city while also reducing our carbon emission.

Campaigns

- The main campaign of 2022 was in response to the Local Body Elections where we ran a series of campaigns, events and prepared [Generation Zero's scorecards](#) for the local body elections in Tāmaki Makaurau, Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Otago. The aim of this campaign was to increase the engagement of young people in local body elections, and to increase the accessibility of information on candidates. We did this through a variety of activities such as hosting a Get Out to Vote gig in Wellington, sharing our scorecards across the motu and facilitating mayoral candidate panels.
- Worked with our friends from 350.org Auckland to run the successful Climate Action Targeted Rate which will reduce Auckland's emissions and generate \$574m with additional funding to finance a range of great projects including building a \$228m worth of walking and cycling facilities as well as build 18 km of new cycleways, 35 km of walking connectivity improvements and ultimately give us \$1b for climate action over 10 years (this could be used to plant 14,800 native trees and decarbonising our ferry fleet!)



- Started our 'All Railways Save our Trains' campaign to call KiwiRail to support the retention of a national passenger rail network to connect communities (and deject their announcement of ending same-day intercity services between Auckland/Wellington and Picton/Christchurch)
- Ran a 'Free Fares' campaign for Greater Christchurch for youth under 25, students and Total Mobility and Community Services card holders
- Worked alongside Fridays for Future, 350.org Aotearoa, NZUSA, Coal Action Network Aotearoa, MAWSA, VUWSA, Climate Clinic, Students for Climate Solutions and Greenpeace for the Emissions Reduction Plans launch by producing a campaign up to 2025 that will educate and explain its significance and call for 5 demands:
 - free fares, policies to halve our dairy herd;
 - mass investment in public and active transport;
 - getting the state sector and Fonterra off fossil fuels;
 - a set date for an import ban on ICE vehicles; and
 - a phase-out of synthetic nitrogen fertilisers
- Started our art competition for the Wellington Region with the prompt of 'What if we just made art, not the climate crisis?'. This is a proactive campaign to get the Wellington region envisioning what a climate safe future looks like through art, and to facilitate a community discussion and community-led advocacy through art.

Public Engagements

- Supported an open letter to call out NZ's unjust waste strategy that is currently shipping over 98,000 tonnes (and counting) of plastic waste to Global South, while profiting by living in a 'clean and green' country



- Publicly engaged the community to support Light Rail, housing and cycle networks in Te Whanganui-a-Tara where we mobilised residents to have their say through a quick submit form
- Volunteered to help Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki fight the invasive moth plant weed on Motutapu Island along with Global Shapers Auckland, Sustainable Future Collective and Auckland Council
- Held regular potlucks and events where climate justice advocates can support and get to know one another in the spirit of being friends first and taking care of our mental health
- Refined our supporter email list to achieve an average 21.1% open rate for our national emails this year
- Fundraised over \$8,825 from emails to our generous supporters this year.
- Had a total post reach of 68,395 people (the number of people who saw any of our posts at least once) on our Facebook page from November 2021 to November 2022 of 68,395 people (increase of 48.5%). On Instagram we reached 20,549 people (increase of 391%) and it resulted in 4436 profile visits. This year we also boosted some of our posts to increase engagement in the local body elections which resulted in 60,651 impressions.

Board Reflections

2022 has been a year of re-focussing towards the future. We spent a considerable amount of time strategising how Generation Zero can campaign for climate justice in a decolonised way where members and volunteers feel they have the right skills, adequate tools, and community support.

We also recognised that due to the reactive nature of campaigning, Generation Zero members and volunteers have had a higher tendency to burn out, particularly because



climate change is an anxiety-inducing topic for many young people. Therefore, for 2022, we have actively chosen to focus on co-learning with one another, focussing on friends first in the wider climate ecosystem, and reacting less to policies that were not made with youth, but call to consult youth afterwards.

The spirit of manaakitanga, responsibility of collective wellbeing, has been strong as the Generation Zero whānau have balanced their capacity and priorities with personal circumstances during the past few uncertain and difficult years.

Our highlights in 2022 include:

- Developing our Future of Generation Zero strategy outline, our purpose and intentions as an organisation as we set a strategic direction of how we will campaign in the future. The draft strategy went out for engagement late in 2022 with the strategy being launched at Summerfest 2023.
- Providing a variety of trainings from climate justice, decolonisation, what to do when we "f***up", history of GZ, Te Tiriti, and many other trainings required to upskill both in campaigning and cultural knowledge.
- Recruiting and onboarding a new Administrator who is supporting our day to day activities as well as keeping the functions of Generation Zero being met both internally and externally.
- Employed new coordinators in Te Whanganui-a-Tara as part of the Wellington Community Funding that we were granted. The coordinators led the region across many campaigns and initiatives which we will delve into below.
- Successfully completing a Local Body Elections national campaign (except Ōtepoti who did not have any members to execute the campaign). We will delve on this campaign below.
- Widening our partnerships with organisations that are focussed on climate justice such as Chapter Zero, a consortium of board directors who are passionate about



climate change action and understand the power they hold in their director roles in high-emitting companies. We also continued to partner with Lawyers for Climate Action NZ, All Aboard Aotearoa and other civil society groups.

- Starting the process of seeking legal advice on the impacts of the new Incorporated Societies Act on Generation Zero as well as applying for charitable status with the assistance of a pro bono lawyer from Lawyers for Climate Action NZ. We anticipate this process to be completed alongside when the amendments to the new law is commenced.
- Creating a template for our fundraising applications and applying for grants. We recognise the importance of continued donation to keep Generation Zero financially healthy. Due to our focus on providing decolonisation and climate justice trainings this year, we have opted to lessen the national campaigns. This important and conscious choice meant that we had less activities to fundraise for. We have picked up the fundraising once again and have revived the Finance committee to ensure that this mahi continues in this year.

We'd like to acknowledge all the volunteers, donors, and allies who recognise and support the need for climate action and climate justice in Aotearoa New Zealand as we all strive for a zero carbon future that is resilient and equitable.

Member Reflections

In 2022, to have a better balance of their capacity and priorities with personal circumstances during the past few uncertain and difficult years, many key members of Generation Zero have moved overseas or stepped down.



Due to the lack of national and regional capacity in Ōtepoti, there has been no campaigns in these two teams. However, every other region came together to work on the Local Election campaign.

National

Local Body Election campaign

We focused our mahi on achieving two aims: to increase young people's voter turnout in the Local Body Elections in Aotearoa, and to disseminate accessible information on the climate justice commitments of the candidates.

Across the motu, we worked to improve the accessibility of voting for young people, and to share messages of why local body elections were important. Historically the rates of enrolment of those aged 18-24 years has been significantly lower than those of older ages. There are a number of challenges to enrolment such as young people being less likely to have a fixed abode, limited accessibility for a special vote, and it not being clear how to enrol. These logistical challenges can exacerbate even further the idea that voting in the local body election is not important, and won't impact young people's lives anyway.

If young people are enrolled to vote, the next challenge is for them to decide on who to vote for, and to vote. It's a challenge to sift through a large amount of dense information in voting booklets to see which candidates share their values. To do this we created scorecards for 234 council and local board candidates across Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch regions assessing their values and commitments to climate justice, with a split into sections of transport, housing, environment, equity, and Te Tiriti.

We designed a questionnaire and grading system, and worked with the candidates to get their responses.. Following this we analysed their responses through a systemised grading scheme, along with double checking candidates to make sure that allocated scores matched other publicly available information.



Our volunteers created a website to publish the results, and created a user friendly way to engage with the scorecards. This can still be viewed [here](#). We received 34,358 unique users and 44,388 page visits over September and October 2022.

We are proud of the progress we made to improve young people's access to information about the local body candidates and doing our part to shift the conversation of why local elections are important.

Winterfest

Given the impact the Covid-19 has had across the motu in 2022, our annual 'summerfest' meeting became an online and in-person hybrid 'winterfest' due to delays. This annual meeting brings together members from across the country to reflect, socialise and strategise the year ahead together.

The agenda for this year covered topics from Te Tiriti commitments, how to do inclusivity better, and how we wanted to move forwards as an organisation.

Website

This year we were able to give our website a fresh look. We worked with a company called For Purpose who helped our members to decide on what we wanted for the site, and then they went away and built it all for us. We were able to launch the site by the end of 2022, and were so pleased with how it all turned out. Our members received training on how to adapt the site with time, and we chose new branding guidelines which we have been using to provide more consistency to our social media posts. We hope this fresh face will help us to create engaging messaging and content to the public moving forward.





Auckland



Climate Action Targeted Rate (CATR)

The year started off with a campaign to get councillors to vote in favour of the CATR which is part of the Auckland Budget. This rate proposal is to deliver:

- 170,000 more Aucklanders living within 500m of a frequent bus route
- \$122 million to accelerate decarbonisation of the ferry fleet, which accounts for 21 percent of Auckland's emissions from public transport
- \$228 million for walking and cycling
- \$13.3 million for urban ngahere, māra kai (food gardens) and tiny forests
- New frequent bus services in Manukau, Manurewa-Papakura, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Waitākere, Whau, Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa, Rodney, Albany, Ōrākei, and Franklin wards and service level improvements throughout Auckland
- An additional 66 low-emissions buses for Tāmaki Makaurau
- An additional 18km of safe cycle facilities
- Up to 35km of walking connectivity improvements
- 14,800 native mature trees with a focus on areas with the most heat vulnerability and lowest canopy cover (mainly in south Auckland).

For this campaign, we sent in our own submission as a group, made a submission guide with 350 Auckland, emailed every councillors, mobilised our supporters to make a submission and email their local councillors, and did an oral submission to the Council. As a result, 19 out of 21 of the councillors voted in favour of the rate proposal.

Winterfest



In preparation for Winterfest, we held various training workshops including Neighbourly Solidarity with Olivia Yates, Climate Justice with India Logan Riley, and History of GZ with members of the board.

During Winterfest, we get to meet each other after a long time, some for the first time in-person. We learned more GZ history from Lisa and mostly importantly "What to do when we f***ed up?". Grace held a Te Tiriti workshop during Winterfest. We had a refresher about the Treaty and discussed how we can engage and contribute to the legitimising of Māori governance within our mahi.



After Winterfest, two members from the Auckland team also joined Wellington's Narrative Change training by The Workshop. And three members attended a media training session hosted by All Aboard Aotearoa.

Local Elections

Most of our time and energy in 2022 were spent towards the Local Elections campaign. From planning the vision and goal of the campaign, formulating the questions to scoring the candidates, creating the website and promoting the scorecards. In Auckland, due to limited capacity, we mainly focused our energy in creating the candidate scorecards.

Unfortunately, despite all the hard work, the election results weren't as we wished, with less than 50% of climate-friendly candidates voted to council. However, we did receive



some good feedback from candidates who completed our candidate survey, saying the questions are thought provoking and set a roadmap of a Council that is more equitable and creates a more just society.



Transport Emission Reduction Plan

One of our members did an oral presentation to the councillors right before the local elections to try to influence them to vote in favour of it. In the end, 16 out of 21 councillors voted in favour.

University of Auckland (UoA)

The team at UoA had another successful year of events and campaigning. In November 2021, we sent an open letter together with 26 other clubs on campus, asking the University to 1) set the date to reach zero emissions by 1 January 2030; 2) release a Climate Action Plan; and 3) publicly disclose all relevant data. Since then, the University has been more transparent about their data and has released their draft Te Taumata Tukuwaro-kore | Net Zero Carbon Strategy, which we also made a submission on.



As the semester started in March, we were still affected by COVID restrictions but participated in the Virtual Club Expo organised by the University. In the meantime, we supported the local team in their Climate Action Targeted Rate (CATR) campaign and ran a stall on campus, encouraging students to make a submission.

We celebrated Eco Week with two events. Firstly, a collaboration with UoA Marine Science Society and UoA Film Society on a Movie Night. This event gave students and our exec team a break from tests and assignments, while improving our reach to the student body. Secondly, we held our annual Bike Breakfast event with Students of Urban Planning and Architecture. Everyone who used active or public transport to get to university would be able to get free food and drinks from us.

With the success of Green Drinks in 2021, we decided to hold another, rebranded Eco Drinks with UoA Horticulture Club.

Our highlight event of the year was definitely the Pacific Climate Justice Speaker Panel in collaboration with Auckland University Global Studies Society, Amnesty on Campus UoA, and Pacific Island Law Student Association. We had speakers from Pacific Climate Warriors and lecturers from UoA. It was a great kōrero with great turnout, we all learned a lot from it.

For AUSA's Politics Week and to get more youth to vote in the local elections, we had a Pub Quiz at Shadows that had politics and environmental themes.



Wellington

2022 has introduced some of the biggest cultural shifts within the Wellington team due to an increase in well-being workshops and updated Te Tirti trainings. This has allowed our current members to thrive throughout the year, including busy campaign seasons which would typically cause burnout among the membership.

The Team

The team started the year by hosting Generation Zero's annual event "Generation Zero Presents," which offered the wider community the opportunity to ask about our mahi and potentially become a volunteer in the process. This event was made online to make it accessible to a wide range of people during the pandemic and managed to expand the group korero to a larger network of local organisations and individuals.

- Continued to hold meetings at the Sustainability Trust alongside larger hui at 2/57 and Island bay community club.
- New working group structure formed during the local body election allowing for members to have clearer roles and contributions to the mahi.

We'd like to give a special thanks to our volunteers from 2022 who contributed many hours of mahi towards our website, local body election scorecards, and events (such as the Parrot Dog gig and mayoral debate). Due to their incredible commitment throughout the year we have managed to build a steady momentum in the climate advocacy space which we will use to guide our mahi in 2023.

This team also wouldn't be the same without the incredible skill of The Workshop, Inspiring Communities, Bridget Watson and Treaty Action Collective who helped train and upskill our members throughout the year. The wellbeing workshops were a key element to the teams communication and performance during local body elections and ensured that the high trust environment from the previous year was maintained.



Alongside this, the Te Tiriti trainings led by Treaty Action Collective, were integral towards building an educated understanding of Aotearoa's history. This has allowed for the opportunity to better understand our place within the community on an individual and organisational level.

The coordinators held reflective sessions with members after our Local Body election campaign to give a chance for feedback, and found that members generally felt supported, connected and energised this year. Members reported less burn-out following the campaign than in previous years. Members have noted that there has been growth personally and collectively as a group in the past year. Certain members have felt like they've moved from the periphery of Generation Zero towards the core, and there is excitement for the personal and collective growth to come. This is demonstrated in how our discussions for our future plans come with comparatively more ease, collaboration and a sense of shared momentum.

Funding and Staff

In 2022, we were able to increase our impact in the Wellington region due to our generous funding from the Wellington Community Trust's Climate Action Fund.

Our funding proposal focused on 5 key areas:

1. Employing paid staff to carry out organising and coordinating for the Wellington region.
2. Running campaigns on climate justice.
3. Supporting our allies and groups with aligned values.
4. Education, upskilling, and workshops for ourselves, allies, and the wider community.
5. Expanding our operations to the wider region (mainly Porirua and Hutt City).

We have worked closely with WCT to improve our systems and ability to report on our impact, and we are so grateful for their support.

2022 saw a change in staffing as our two original coordinators stepped away to continue different pursuits, and two new coordinators came on board through a recruitment process. The 30 hour position was taken up by an external candidate who comes with funding and NGO experience from around the world (Annalies -



they/them), and the 10-hour position was taken up by Janine (she/her), a member who had excelled in leadership skills and her insights in community organising in Aotearoa. Together they are really enjoying working together and with their amazing volunteers who they are really proud of. The Coordinators continue to be supported by Board members, and alumni, and worked from Sustainability Trust throughout 2022.

Campaigns

This year the Wellington team has worked together on three main campaigns to both engage young people in climate justice activism and to advocate for change. One of the notable intentions for us has been to increase our collaborations with other advocacy groups active in Wellington. Collective liberation is central to our understanding of climate justice, and practically for us this year this has meant working alongside our peers, learning from their perspectives and sharing the load of the mahi. This has been a highlight for the members who noted that it created a sense of unity and momentum. Through working together we did so much more than we could have ever done apart.

1. Local Body Election in Wellington Region

In Wellington Region we worked with six councils and received responses from candidates in Wellington, Porirua, Lower Hutt, and Upper Hutt City Councils; Kapiti Coast District Council; and Greater Wellington Regional Council.

There were challenges along the way, including managing the public reaction to the scorecards, and in the large and varied workload of organising and analysing all the responses that was completed by our volunteer-led team.

We designed a website to publish our scorecards which led to over 34,000 new users in New Zealand visiting the site to find out who to vote for in their council. This



website was a prominent tool in our campaign and we received significant feedback from young people that it helped them to navigate the decision of who to vote for.

Why We Vote Local

The Wellington team also created a series of campaigning called 'Why We Vote Local', which focused on shifting the conversation and perspective among young people towards excitement to be engaged in local politics. There were multiple aspects to this campaign:

- **Why We Vote Local Billstickers around Wellington city** - Members worked alongside prominent organisations and leaders in our community to create profiles on why they were voting local. A special thanks to Everybody Eats, VUWSA, and Make It 16 for working with us on this. These billboards were displayed with messages such as 'we're voting local because Rangatahi are impacted by local decisions too (Make it 16)'. They also provided QR codes to our scorecards.
- **Get out to Vote Gig:** In September 2022, Generation Zero hosted a 'Get out to vote Gig' at ParrotDog Lyall Bay. The aim of the gig was to reach a diverse range of young people who were not normally politically active. We had three local popular bands perform who drew their wide fan bases to the event, and we collaborated with Action Station to share messages of why voting was so important for us to have a say in our future. Approximately 300 young people attended, many of whom were not linked to Gen Zero or a political organisation or advocacy group. Progressive council candidates attended the gig as a way to connect to young people, and a bus was provided to return the gig attendees home. We felt that the energy in the room was full of hope and excitement, and we were tired, but so pleased with this event.
- **Local Body Election Quiz with VUWSA and Renters United:** We ran this in September 2022. 50 young people attended the quiz and responded to questions on how the local government works, the councillors that represented them at the times, and the issues that local government can make decisions on.



- **Public Forum for Mayoral Candidates and the Community:** In September 2022, Generation Zero and Renters United hosted a Mayoral Forum at St Peters church with three of the Mayoral candidates, Paul Eagle, Tory Whanau and Andy Foster.. 87 attendees from the community attended this panel that was designed for the community to share their voices and experiences to the potential mayors. The candidates publicly committed to accessible and equitable transport, tenancy advocacy services, building more homes around transport lines and honouring NPS-UD and safe cycleways. Four people of differing experiences in the community and wider region shared their stories and publicly advocated to the mayoral candidates to commit to change if they were to be elected.

We feel like we played our part in what was a successful result for the Wellington Region, where more than one third of both the Wellington City Council and the Greater Wellington Regional Councilors scored an A on our scorecards. This means that we have a progressive council that aligns with our values. Young people get the chance to build a carbon neutral future as future lobbying is easier. This means more cycleways and fewer cars, an accessible city, Māori leadership on climate justice, better public transport, more green spaces.

We saw a small increase in turn-out from 40% in 2019 to 43.27% in 2022 LBE. This was up from 40% last LBE. We noticed there were more conversations in the public on why councils are important, why diverse and strong councillors are necessary and more candidates were speaking about Te Tiriti compared to previous elections. We feel that we played a part in this through our engagement events and our scorecards.

2. District Plan

Wellington Council is in the process of renewing the Resource Management Act and designing a District Plan for the next 10 years. We submitted a comprehensive district plan submission which advocated for a city that is designed to increase



density and build a walkable city. This will add voice and advocacy to remove some of the structural limitations in the city planning that contributes to inaccessibility. Through our District Plan submission with the help of environmental lawyers, we submitted a technical submission on the District Plan that provided evidence for:

- a. No hard limits on building in the CBD to allow for densification
- b. Measures to support a walkable city
- c. Transit lines to Johnsonville
- d. Less protection of character sites that stop densification

This is a long process of hearings that will run from 2023 to 2024 so the impact of this will be seen in the years to come as we continue to engage. We see it as a key way that we can ensure that density is prioritised within Wellington, and therefore reducing emissions and making the city more accessible for all peoples.

Art competition

In May 2022 Generation Zero members began designing a new kind of project for us, an Art Competition entitled [‘What if we just made art, not the Climate Crisis?’](#). This is a pilot proactive campaign that will encourage people in the Wellington region to envision what a climate safe future looks like for them, and to envisage the hope and changes we want to see in our whenua, whanau and community. This preparation process has led us to connect to new organisations such as Track Zero. It also has provided a key way for our more creative members to invest their energy and skills into fostering change. The campaign launched in December 2022 on our new website, and our hope is that we will facilitate a wider community dialogue about how we create a climate safe future for all generations within Pōneke region.

Other Campaigns and Activities

- Generation Zero hosted a ‘Women in activism’ event on the 20th June 22. 28 women and gender minorities attended the event in person, with 13 people joining online. Since then 37 people have viewed parts of the livestream video



(over 1 minute view) and 13 people asked questions during session. This session created a safe space for women and gender minorities to share openly and freely about their activism, and to support and encourage each other.

- Generation Zero supported the Free Fares campaign this year, and as reported above we were able to facilitate 418 submissions on the Free Fares campaign to make transport more accessible for people.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi Training – We have started providing regular Te Tiriti o Waitangi training workshops for members and allies. These are to upskill ourselves and other climate and justice groups for our upcoming campaigns and actions.



Christchurch

In 2022 the Christchurch team focused on collaborating with community groups and organisations to push for climate justice and social equality through local council policy and local election demands.

University of Canterbury Students' Association Clubs Day

The Christchurch team had recruitment drives at the Clubs Day event in March, May and July. We had a few contributors and volunteers sign up. Following the May Clubs Day, we held a Volunteer welcome event two weeks later to give a more indepth introduction to Generation Zero and what we do. Due to low campus attendance during 2022 due to COVID, we had less sign ups than anticipated.

Environment Canterbury Annual Plan

We had a [campaign](#) on the Environment Canterbury (ECan) Annual Plan 2022/2023 with the Free Fares Campaign Collective with various allied groups to push for targeted free bus fares for under 25s, tertiary students, Total Mobility and Community Service Card holders. The combined campaign saw Environment Canterbury receiving 2800 submissions on the plan, with 92% supporting a reduction in bus fares. The regional council decided to bring in \$1 flat fares for under 25s, tertiary students and card holders, and a \$2 flat fare for everyone else. This meant that there was an overall fare reduction for all Greater Christchurch residents.

Christchurch City Council District Plan Changes (Plan Change 14)

We also had a [campaign](#) on the proposed Christchurch City Council District Plan changes to align with the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) and Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS) that was brought in by the government to allow more intensification near city centres and public transport corridors in the city. In September 2022, due to strong pressure from residential homeowner groups, the Christchurch City Council voted against notifying the plan



changes before the local elections. We are still [continuing with the campaign](#) to ensure that the CCC allows greater intensification in the city without delay and watering down by residential homeowner lobby groups.

2022 Local Elections and Youth Democracy Project

In parallel with the national local election campaign where we received 46 scorecard responses from candidates in Canterbury, we also were involved in the funding of the Youth Democracy Project with Living Wage New Zealand, Anglican Advocacy, Sustainable Ōtautahi Christchurch and Tertiary Education Union. The project funded a part-time role to organise a network of community groups around Christchurch to increase collaboration and train young people to become advocates. A mayoral candidate forum was held in September with Phil Mauger and David Meates listening to stories of various community groups and the issues young people face. We also got the mayoral candidates and councillor candidates to pledge support to the various demands presented by the groups.



Dunedin

We have struggled to rebuild the membership in Dunedin in the aftermath of Covid-19 as well as the lack of campaigns that usually draw people into volunteering or joining as a member. In 2023, we plan to rebuild the region starting with the Summerfest as well as an array of campaigns that are specific to the region.

Conclusion

Overall, we had a fantastic, introspective yet climate-effective year that is focused on building true partnerships with Global South and organisations focussed on climate justice. We were volunteer-centric in our campaigns. And we ensured that our campaigns, though mostly held regionally, were of service to the community and climate justice.

Once again, we thank all of our volunteers, members, the Administrator, employees, volunteer board members, and donors who continue to support youth who are passionate about creating a climate-just future for Aotearoa.

