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Are There Reasons For Optimism?

Kia ora tatou,

Inflation figures released at the end of January show a fall in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from 5.6% in the September 2023 quarter to 4.7% in the December 2023 quarter, which is welcome news. However, although inflation is lower, it still isn't the inflation rate that the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) is aiming for as their target lies between 1% - 3%.

Whilst it's a step in the right direction, many economists are predicting that the RBNZ will keep the Official Cash Rate (OCR) at its current level of 5.5% in February, as it tries to maintain the downward trend for inflation. Should this be the case, the likelihood is that interest rates will remain high, offering no respite to members paying mortgages and business loans. There is some hope however that if inflation continues to fall, initiating a reduction in the OCR, then interest rates will follow suit later in the year which would be a positive outcome for us all.

A recent survey by NZIER (New Zealand Institute of Economic Research) saw business confidence rise sharply in the final quarter of 2023. Hopefully this optimism is well-founded, leading to a successful 2024 for members, many of whom may continue to have their resilience tested for a little while longer.

Ngā mihi mahana,

Kevin O'Leary

General Manager, Business North Harbour

Upcoming Workshops & Events



BA5 Hosted by North Harbour Hyundai
Thursday 08th February 2024, 5.30pm
North Harbour Hyundai

BNH Business After 5 is back in 2024 and we have a series of exciting networking opportunities lined up for you. First up, we invite you to an evening of fun and networking at the **North Harbour Hyundai** showroom in Wairau Valley. Let's kick off 2024 in style with your fellow Business North Harbour members, surrounded by the latest and greatest Hyundai vehicles.

[Register Here](#)



Markets and KiwiSaver: Are You Prepared?
Thursday 15th February 2024, 5.30pm
North Shore Golf Club

Markets are volatile, inflation is up, and a recession could be looming. How does this impact the state of retirement funding, and how can you protect your KiwiSaver in this environment while also benefiting from the recovery? Join Dominic Bish, Principal at Bolster Risk Management, and Sid Singh, Principal at NZ Funds, for a relaxed discussion on the topics mentioned above. Learn how they can assist you and your employees with KiwiSaver and in preparing for retirement.

[Register Here](#)



First on the Scene - First Aid Workshop with St John
Thursday 22nd February 2024, 1.00pm
Business North Harbour

St John has designed a two-hour workshop to up-skill staff. Attendees will be shown how to deal with the five most common situations they are likely to encounter in their workplace environment, which could be a cardiac arrest, a falling injury, or a person cut and badly bleeding. The aim of this workshop is to up-skill staff to compliment, or assist, your fully trained first aiders.

[Register Here](#)

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON

All BNH members are invited to welcome the Year of the Dragon and experience the rich culture of the Lunar New Year Celebrations.

WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY | 12.00–2.00pm



North Harbour Asian Business Group

Community Connect & Lunar New Year Celebration with Asian Family Services

Wednesday 28th February 2024, 12-2pm

North Shore Golf Club

Celebrate the Lunar New Year at the North Harbour Asian Business Group Community Connect, presented by BNH and ASIAN FAMILY SERVICES. Join us in fostering community unity in the North Harbour Business Improvement District, where you'll connect with like-minded professionals and gain insights into workplace Mental Health and Wellbeing. Don't miss this chance to expand your network, explore collaborations, and discover the supportive programmes Asian Family Services offers to the BNH community. Strengthen bonds, build camaraderie, and usher in a prosperous future together. Save the date for an evening of business community building and Lunar New Year festivities!

[Register Here](#)



BUSINESS CAPABILITY WORKSHOP

THE ART OF SELLING

Improve your sales confidence and skills
with one of NZ's top sales and mindset coaches

THURSDAY 7 MARCH | 12.00–2.00pm
BUSINESS NORTH HARBOUR



Business Capability Workshop

The Art Of Selling

Wednesday 7th March 2024, 12.00-2.00pm

Business North Harbour

Business North Harbour is proud to announce that Natalie Tolhopf is back!

Join us for a Business Capability Workshop: The Art of Selling - Learn how to improve your sales confidence and skills with one of NZ's top sales and mindset coaches.

During the 2-hour workshop, build on your current sales skills by learning the mechanics of selling, how sales is JUST a conversation, and that sales can be done every day. YES, daily in a non-pushy way. The sales foundations being taught at the workshop will generate an ROI and build wonderful confidence. This workshop is suitable for all, no matter what stage you are in your sales career or business journey.

[Register Here](#)

BUSINESS AFTER 5 NETWORKING & BUSINESS SHOWCASE

WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 2024 | 5.30PM–8.00PM
NORTH SHORE GOLF CLUB

REGISTER NOW | ONLY \$79+GST PER BUSINESS

Business After 5

Networking & Business Showcase

Wednesday 20th March 2024, 5.30-8.00pm

North Shore Golf Club

Showcase your products, services, or expertise!

We invite you to join our 2nd Business After 5: Networking & Business Showcase! This is a great opportunity to connect with other businesses in the BID. While primarily a B2B event, all members are welcome to attend.

Each business will have a designated tabletop to display and interact with others. Exchange business cards, discuss collaborations, and build relationships. The \$79.00 + GST registration fee includes a bar leaner tabletop, 2 event tickets, refreshments, cash bar, and complimentary parking. Feel free to bring marketing materials but avoid bulky items or large banners. Pull-up banners are acceptable, but spots are limited.

[Register Here](#)

21 ST & 22ND MARCH 2024
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[BUSINESSNH.ORG.NZ/INORGANICCOLLECTION](https://businessnh.org.nz/inorganiccollection)

Inorganic Collection

21st -22nd March 2024 Business inorganic collections for unwanted office furniture, equipment and e-waste. Pick ups are made from your business (not the roadside) and will be organised with you directly once you have registered for a collection.

Please [click here](#) to register or contact david@businessnh.org.nz.

INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Training for your current and upcoming leaders

To be sustainable, workplaces need inclusive leaders with the skills to manage diverse perspectives, support and empower their teams and turn differences into opportunities for growth and innovation within their organisation.

North Harbour Hockey is partnering with Diversity Works New Zealand to deliver an Inclusive Leadership workshop at its Albany centre in March and Business North Harbour members are invited to book places for their team members at a discounted rate.

Applications Invited For The BNH Leadership And Business Mentoring Programme

Following the success of the Business North Harbour (BNH) Leadership and Business Mentoring Programmes in 2023, applications are invited from potential mentors and mentees for two new Leadership and Business Mentoring Programmes which will run concurrently in 2024. Developed in conjunction with Dr. Patricia Bossons, Honorary Teaching Fellow, Massey University Business School, one programme will accommodate female mentees who prefer a female mentor, while the other will be a mixture of male and female mentors and mentees. Applications for the programmes should be made by no later than Wednesday 28th February, to kevin@businessnh.org.nz click [here](#) for more details.

Latest Information From Business.govt.nz



The business.govt.nz and other Government sources provide the latest information for businesses. If you have any questions or need support please contact the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)’s phone line for small businesses: Freephone **0800 424 946**

Report A Problem To Auckland Transport Online

AT HOP	Roads	Parking
Bus	Train	Ferry
Cycling	Walking	Streetlights
Footpath	Auckland harbours	Cone removal

Did you know that you can now report a problem or illegal parking, request information, or provide other feedback online to Auckland Transport's newly updated website:
www.aucklandtransport.govt.nz
Click on Tabs: 1) Report a problem
2) Contact us online
3) Click on appropriate problem choices

Free Large Wooden Packing Crates



Are you in need of sturdy, high-quality wooden packing crates?
CONFOIL NZ offers large wooden packing crates FREE to anyone who can put them to good use.

- Crate Sizes/Shape Options:
1. LF Crate
L96cm x W116cm x Height: 55cm (Exterior)
 2. TS Crate
L80cm x W116cm x H89cm (Exterior)
 3. SS Crate
L70cm x W116cm x H76cm (Exterior)
- Please contact Linda Kirk for more information: LindaK@confoil.co.nz

Hyundai New Zealand Pinnacle Programme



Our aim: To inspire & foster development in youth to help grow the next generation of global and community leaders.

Hyundai NZ created the Pinnacle Programme two decades ago to identify young New Zealanders with potential, develop their skills and nurture them to be this country’s next generation of leaders. This programme offers support to young people with diverse passions, spanning from the realms of art, music, film, and performing arts, to fields like science, business, sports, the environment, and everything in between, all through a tailored mentoring experience.

The programme provides motivated and talented youth the opportunity to go through iconic experiential leadership programmes: Spirit of Adventure and Outward Bound. Pinnacle students also have the opportunity to partake in high performance workshops, goal setting and one on one mentoring with an expert in their field.

Do you know a passionate 15–18-year-old that sounds like they could benefit from a programme like this? If so, get them to head over to www.pinnacleprogramme.co.nz

Getting started with an application is a breeze with just three simple steps:

1. Create a profile
2. Share your story by answering four questions
3. Hit that submit button!

Applications are currently open and close on the 31st March.

Free Tickets To BNZ Breakers Games For BNH Members



O'Halloran North Shore Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors are the proud accounting partner and sponsor for the BNZ Breakers and have kindly donated 250 tickets for Business North Harbour members for each of the **9th February** and **16th February** games. If you are keen to get your hands on some tickets (maximum of 4 per person) then email Stephen Simpson, Director of O'Halloran's on stephen@ohns.co.nz and let him know ticket numbers and which game.... first in-first served. Our appreciation to Stephen for this generous offer to our members.

Congratulations to Graeme Dingle Foundation On Prestigious New Year Honour For Decades Of Youth Advocacy



For nearly 30 years, Jo-anne Wilkinson, Lady Dingle, has been a fervent advocate for empowering Kiwi youth, and now she's made the New Year Honours List. [Click here](#) for more details

Thank you to our 2023-2024 PLATINUM PARTNERS

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Thank you to our 2023-2024 GOLD PARTNERS

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ALBANY

parkland

Spark | Business Hub
Auckland
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Business Capability Workshops

Bolster Risk Management

North Harbour Asian Business Group

Asian Family Services
Together enriching lives

Click Here
to read more about
our Partners and
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opportunities



CONTACT: 09 968 2222 WEBSITE: www.businessnh.org.nz

EMAIL: admin@businessnh.org.nz OFFICE: Level 1, Unit 2, 322 Rosedale Road, Rosedale

POSTAL: PO Box 303126, North Harbour