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Official Cash Rate (OCR) - No Change

Kia ora tatou,

Today's highly anticipated OCR announcement from the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) which has seen the OCR unchanged at 5.5 per cent, hopefully signals that the possibility of another increase in already high interest rates which some economists feared, is unlikely to happen. On a cautionary note, this will remain dependent upon the RBNZ continuing to see inflation on the decline moving forwards, albeit slower than it would like.

This will no doubt come as a huge relief to members whose business loans and mortgages have risen significantly in recent times. Whilst this is good news, it appears that we can't expect a meaningful reduction in interest rates until the end of the year at the earliest. This is because, as the rate of inflation is reducing slower than anticipated or desired, the strategies used to bring it under control such as increasing the OCR, which in turn leads to high interest rates, need to remain in place for longer. Thus, the RBNZ feels the need to delay any reduction in the OCR as it endeavours to get inflation down to its 1 – 3 per cent target.

Whilst it is disappointing that today's OCR announcement is unlikely to offer any respite from the ongoing challenging economic climate, on a positive note, it could have been worse.

Ngā mihi mahana,

Kevin O'Leary

General Manager, Business North Harbour

Upcoming Workshops & Events



Business Capability Workshop

The Art Of Selling

Thursday 7th March 2024, 12.00-2.00pm

National Hockey Centre

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 at in your sales career or business journey.

[Register Here](#)



Business Lunch

Leadership In Business With Laurie Sharp

Thursday 14th March 2024, 12.00-2.30pm

National Hockey Centre

What is the difference between an effective leader and a manager?

In this session we look at research that explores what leaders of winning companies are doing to close the gap between their top and bottom performers. We share 2 or 3 actions that may be implemented tomorrow to enrich development conversations with your team. We also look at what people want from leaders and how to get people to 'take action' without being constantly told what to do!

- Management vs. Leadership – The difference
- Getting people to take action
- What people want from leaders
- A model for rich and insightful conversations
- Intent vs. Commit

To book a table of 8 - 12 guests - please email admin@businessnh.org.nz

Lunch will be served, if you have any specific dietary requirements, please email at least 4 working days prior with your request: comms@businessnh.org.nz

[Register Here](#)



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](#)



Wairau Park - Business Support Opportunity
Information Evening
20th Mar 2024, 5.30 to 7.00pm
Aristotles Motel and Conference Centre, 20C Link Drive, Wairau Park

Come and join us to find out more about this exciting opportunity and how you and your business can benefit from engaging with Kaipātiki Local Board and Business North Harbour and establishing a local business support framework.

[Register Here](#)



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.



Women In Business
Business & Beauty with Natasha Bourke
Wednesday, 10th April 2024, 10-12pm
North Shore Golf Club

Join us for an extraordinary Women in Business event this April, where we blend empowerment with elegance, featuring Natasha Bourke, CEO of 200 Doors (Dermalogica & Skintopia New Zealand). Natasha, a dynamic business leader, will share her remarkable journey and insights into success, succession planning, and rethinking business strategy. Prepare for an enriching experience as we introduce a unique twist to our event – 'Business and Beauty.' Delve into Natasha's captivating talk, followed by an exclusive mini skin health session led by Caroline, Head of Training for Dermalogica New Zealand. Gain valuable insights into achieving skin confidence, understanding the impact of hormones on our skin, and gracefully navigating perimenopause and menopause. Plus, each attendee will receive a delightful goodie bag courtesy of Dermalogica.

[Register Here](#)



Business After Five
Global Opportunities: Current and Potential Importers and Exporters Information Evening
Thursday 11th April 2024, 5.30-7.30pm
Business North Harbour

Join us for an exclusive evening hosted by Business North Harbour, dedicated to unlocking the vast potential in importing and exporting goods. Whether you're new to global trade or a seasoned navigator, our event offers invaluable advice and support tailored to your specific needs. Our team of experts is committed to guiding you through the complexities of international trade, ensuring our BID Members succeed. Explore potential collaborations, stay updated on regulatory changes, and grasp market trends crucial for your business' international success. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals and gain the knowledge needed to thrive in the global arena.

Our Team of Experts Includes Representatives from:

MFAT (Confirmed)

MPI (Confirmed)

British Chamber of Commerce (TBC)

New Zealand China Trade Association (TBC)

[Register now to secure your spot!](#)



Event Details:

When: Friday 5th of April 2024

Where: North Shore Golf Club – 51 Appleby Road, Albany, Auckland 0632

Entry: \$40pp. including participation, food, refreshments and prizes

Schedule:

11:00am – Registration and BBQ

12:10pm – Golf briefing

12:30pm – Shotgun Start

5:00 pm – Prizegiving (with nibbles and refreshments)

Tournament:

1st Place: Gross individual score (The Toro Cup)

2nd Place: Nett individual score

3rd Place: Best team stableford score

Spot Prize: Longest drive

2x Spot Prizes: Nearest to the pin (Par 3's)

If you would like to register, click the link: <https://www.speedgolf.nz/2024-toro-cup/>

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.

The Icehouse Business Owner Programme Exclusive Offer To BNH Members

Business North Harbour

Business Owner Programme

This is a practical three-month programme for business owners, where you'll have the opportunity to learn new business skills, network and redesign your business for the future.

Designed for business owners with turnover

\$1M-\$3M

The Icehouse offers a unique learning experience designed for business owners, spanning three full days over three months. Tailored to owners of businesses with revenues between \$1M and \$3M and a staff of three or more, this practical programme equips participants with essential tools, support, and connections for driving progress and enhancing their businesses.

The programme commences with the use of our Centrigrade™ online tool, guiding participants to identify strengths and growth opportunities in their businesses. Over the following three months, attendees engage in three interactive full-day workshops, where they apply their newfound knowledge to their businesses and exchange experiences and ideas with fellow owners. Beyond the monthly workshops, participants can opt for focused one-on-one sessions with an Icehouse business coach for an additional fee, aimed at accelerating progress in their Business Growth Plan.

The programme addresses crucial aspects, such as deciding the future of business operations and strategies for success, instilling leadership, mindset, and resilience for top-tier growth, building high-performing teams and cultivating a positive business culture, transforming sales approaches to become customer-centric, and harnessing digital and social media channels for growth.

Under the guidance of Programme Facilitator Jamie Brock, a seasoned Business Coach and Programme Director for various Icehouse programmes, participants will benefit from his expertise in enhancing business performance. Jamie has a wealth of experience as a senior executive, leading sizeable sales and marketing teams in New Zealand. His ownership of small businesses and involvement in successful start-ups locally and internationally adds valuable insights to the programme.

The Auckland-based programme spans three workshops on August 15th, September 12th, and October 24th, providing a comprehensive and dynamic learning experience for business owners seeking to elevate their ventures.

50% funding is available from Regional Business Partners Funding. For more information and to register your interest please download the [full brochure here](#) or email Bernadette Roberts @ Comms@businessnh.org.nz

Latest Information From Business.govt.nz



The business.govt.nz and other Government sources provide the latest information for businesses.

- [Minimum wage increases from 1 April](#)
- [Online security basics for your business](#)
- [Discover best practice standards](#)
- [Thinking of becoming a sole trader?](#)
- [Give yourself an AI advantage](#)

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**

Become A Partner In A Multiple Award-Winning Sustainability Project

Conservation, sustainability, community

Become a partner in a multiple award-winning sustainability project Te Hōnonga a Iwi: Restoring Rosedale Park.

Join 18 other small local businesses and 30 local organisations in the North Harbour Business area who are working together to increase the health of our local park, decarbonise and increase their organisation's sustainability at the same time! Explore further by [clicking here](#).

Contact Nicky Shave, Board member, North Harbour Hockey Association on hello@restoringrosedalepark.org.nz if you would like to become a valued partner in generating positive change for your place and future generations.

Help To Protect Our Natural Environment - Join The Industrial Pollution Prevention Programme



An Upper Harbour Local Board funded pollution prevention programme has started in Rosedale. The programme, run by Wilkinson Environmental Ltd, delivers free advice to businesses in the area on how to prevent accidental stormwater pollution on their sites. Businesses that handle oils, chemicals, or any material that can spill, are faced with the risk that these substances could accidentally enter their local stream. Rosedale has a number of businesses who face such a risk. Find out more [here](#).

Business Sustainability - Let's Get Started



Explore Oxygen Consulting's workshop series	
Sustainability 101: An introduction to business sustainability – 14 March	
Emissions part 1: Understanding your emissions – 28th March	Beyond Emissions: Waste & circularity, procurement, balancing your impact – 9th May
Emissions part 2: Measuring your emissions – 11th April	Social Sustainability: Diversity & inclusion, modern slavery & supply chain – 23rd May
Emissions part 3: Managing your emissions – 24th April	Communicating Sustainability: How to communicate your sustainability story – 6th June

The demand for sustainable business is accelerating, with increasing interest from customers and investors, alongside evolving regulation requiring businesses to address their social and environmental impacts. Being at the front-end of those changes can be the difference between capturing your market or falling behind more agile competitors.

[Oxygen Consulting](#)'s 7-part workshop series is designed to assist organisations to develop a working understanding of how to implement sustainability practices, and how to harness the benefits and remain competitive.

Facilitated by our expert sustainability consultants, you will get hands on making a start on your business sustainability during the workshops and come away with practical tools to help you to continue your journey.

Date: 28th March – 6th June
Location: Oxygen Consulting office, 27-29 William Pickering Drive, Rosedale
Cost: NHBA rate \$40 per workshop or \$250 for all seven
Register: kiaora@oxygen-consulting.co.nz

Give A Bit Of Green To Your Local Hospital



Well Foundation is on a mission to raise \$2million for an amazing Healing Garden to fill the empty atrium at the new North Shore Hospital facility, Totara Haumaru. Thanks to a big community campaign, major donations, corporate and community partnerships, we are three-quarters of the way there!

We need the continued support of the local community to get us to our target. We are asking 100 local businesses to donate just \$500 each to make this project a reality for your local community. For more information, [click here](#).

Thank you to our 2023-2024 PLATINUM PARTNERS



Thank you to our 2023-2024 GOLD PARTNERS



Thank you to our 2023-2024 SILVER PARTNERS



Thank you to our Event PARTNERS



Click Here
to read more about
our Partners and
BNH Partnership
opportunities



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