

My Masterton: Our People, Our Land

He Hiringa Tangata, He Hiringa Whenua



Cultural Development

OUR VISION

Masterton/Whakaoriori values the place and role of tangata whenua and is proud of our cultural identity and heritage



Culture connects and strengthens communities, instils a sense of pride and identity and improves individual and community health and wellbeing.

Māori culture, in particular, is central to our sense of New Zealand's uniqueness as a place, a society and a nation, and is a defining feature of our identity in the world.¹

We aspire to be a leader in cultural development and want to build on all of the positive actions already occurring in our community.

We want Masterton/Whakaoriori to have a sense of pride in its culture and heritage, and to value the role and place of tangata whenua within our district. We also want our organisation to have a more bicultural focus.

The two priorities below outline the strategic direction we will take to achieve our vision.

1

A commitment to working with Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Kahungunu ki Wairarapa to strengthen relationships and increase opportunities for meaningful partnership and collaboration. To achieve this we will:

- Strengthen and maintain opportunities for greater decision-making between MDC and iwi
- Support iwi, hapū and Māori communities in the long-term sustainability and wellbeing of local Marae
- Integrate tangata whenua values, culture and language into the business of MDC

2

A community that is proud of its cultural identity and heritage. To achieve this we will:

- Increase the number of opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about the history and heritage of Masterton/Whakaoriori
- Support language and culture being celebrated in our district

¹ Ministry for Culture and Heritage (2014) Cultural Sector Strategic Framework 2014-2018, page 3