



For immediate release

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Change in Waikato Show 2020

It is with regret that the Waikato Winter Show Association and Showing Waikato Team announce cancellation of the majority of the Waikato Show 2020.

As an event that has caring for people at its heart, we have taken the NZ Government recommendations for large events and made decisions based on both the current advice and the pending changes.

The Waikato Show falls into the category of a mass gathering with over 1000 people, without allocated seating making contact tracing difficult. We fully support the measures taken to 'flatten the curve' directed by the NZ Government and we are doing our part to prioritise the health and wellbeing of all.

The Waikato Show has been in contingency planning for some weeks and is prepared for the changes these recommendations require. Significant parts of the Waikato Show can continue as they are online or by competition entry and we hope that this opportunity to participate and stay connected will be a welcome activity for those affected or in self-isolation over the coming weeks. (Circle of Good, Photography, Arts & Cookery).

Although the 2020 Waikato Show was on track to attract over 18,000 people to the family festival and expo combination, there is nothing more important than the wellbeing of our community. By announcing these changes now, our exhibition partners know we value and support them. We are grateful to our sponsors and Showing Waikato will continue to share our mutual message of community well-being.

Our team will now focus on 4 priorities:

1. Care for the community affected by these changes
2. Business impact from the Waikato Show changes
3. Planning and reforming for 2021 Show delivery (dates: April 9,10 &11th 2021)
4. Making the Waikato A&P Show (Oct 30,31 & Nov 1 2020) a safe and fabulous celebration for our community

Ngā mihi,

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— **SHOWING** —
WAIKATO