

## Joint Regional Economic Development Committee Minutes

Meeting held in the Whangarei District Council  
Te Iwitahi, 9 Rust Avenue, Whangārei  
on Friday 6 March 2026, commencing at 10:00 am

### Tuhinga/Present:

Chair (NRC Councillor) Geoff Crawford  
Deputy Chair (KDC Deputy Mayor) Gordon Lambeth  
KDC Councillor Craig Jepson  
NRC Chair Pita Tipene (*Via audio-visual link*)  
WDC Mayor Ken Couper  
WDC Deputy Mayor Scott McKenzie  
FNDC Councillor John Vujcich (*Via audio-visual link*)  
FNDC Councillor Rachel Baucke (part meeting)

### I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

#### Full Meeting

FNDC Mayor Moko Tepania  
NRC Councillor John Hunt

NRC GM Corporate Services  
NRC Economist  
NRC Economic Policy Advisor  
NRC Administration  
NRC Councillor John Hunt  
NRC Chief Executive Officer  
KDC Chief Executive Officer  
FNDC Deputy Mayor  
FNDC Chief Executive Officer  
FNDC GM Planning and Policy  
FNDC Principal Advisor – Strategic Relationships  
Northland Inc Chief Executive  
Northland Inc Chair  
Northland Inc Head of Investment  
Northland Inc Head of Finance & Corporate Services  
Northland Inc Head of Kaupapa Māori, Enterprise and Innovation  
Northland Inc Acting Head of Destination  
Northland Inc Head of Strategic Communications (*Via audio-visual link*)  
WDC Economic Development Facilitator

#### Part Meeting

WDC GM Transport and Community Infrastructure  
WDC GM Planning and Development  
Beca Northland Branch Manager, Technical Director Planning  
Beca Technical Director – Economic Development Advisory (*Via audio-visual link*)  
Infometrics, Chief Executive and Principal Economist

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10am.

## **Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)**

## **Ngā whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)**

## **Confirmation of Minutes - Extraordinary Joint Economic Development Committee Minutes (Item 4.1)**

**Report from Rae Hetaraka, Executive Assistant to the Chair**

**Moved (Vujcich/Crawford)**

That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 22 December 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**Carried**

*Secretarial Note: The following update to the Secretarial Note for agenda item 5.2 of the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 22 December 2025 was made: Gordon Lambeth was duly nominated and received a seconder for the position of Deputy Chair. Although John Vujcich was nominated, the nomination did not receive a seconder. As only one valid nomination was before the Committee, the Chair declared Gordon Lambeth elected to the position of Deputy Chair of the Joint Regional Economic Development Committee.*

## **Northland Inc Limited - Impact Report (Item 5.1)**

**Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor**

**Moved (Crawford/Vujcich)**

1. That the report 'Northland Inc Limited - Impact Report' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 2 March 2026, be received.
2. That the Impact Report be provided to each of the four shareholder councils of Northland Inc Limited to assist with development of their respective Long Term Plans 2027-2037.

**Moved (Crawford/Lambeth)**

3. That a letter be sent to Whangarei District Council (WDC) requesting them to use the Impact Report to review their funding contribution to the Investment and Growth Reserve (IGR) for 2026/27 in line with the letter received from the Mayor of WDC dated 15 August 2025.

**Carried**

## **Northland Inc Limited: Reporting Against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) on the Statement of Intent 2025/26 including Half-Year Financials and Quarterly Highlights (Item 5.2)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

**Moved (McKenzie/Tipene)**

That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: Reporting Against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) on the Statement of Intent 2025/26 including Half-Year Financials and Quarterly Highlights' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 12 February 2026, be received.

**Carried**

## **Te Rerenga: Taitokerau Northland Economic Wellbeing Pathway - Progress Update (Item 5.3)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

**Moved (Tipene/Vujcich)**

1. That the report 'Te Rerenga: Taitokerau Northland Economic Wellbeing Pathway - Progress Update' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 2 March 2026, be received.
2. That Northland Inc be requested to provide written comment by 31 March 2026 on:
  - a. Whether they have capacity and capability to lead out the implementation of Te Rerenga, and
  - b. The level of priority implementing Te Rerenga has in comparison to their other activities / work programmes.

**Carried**

## **Northland Inc Limited: Statement of Intent 2026/27 - Draft received from Northland Inc (Item 5.4)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

**Moved (Crawford/Couper)**

That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: Statement of Intent 2026/27 - Draft received from Northland Inc' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 11 February 2026, be received.

**Carried**

## **Northland Inc Limited: Directors - Appointment for term commencing 1 July 2026 (Item 5.5)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

### **Moved (Tipene/Vujcich)**

1. That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: Directors - Appointment for term commencing 1 July 2026' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 13 February 2026, be received.
2. That Suzanne Duncan be reappointed to the Board of Northland Inc Limited for a term of three years beginning 1 July 2026.
3. That Michael Lightfoot be reappointed to the Board of Northland Inc Limited for a term of two years beginning 1 July 2026.

**Carried**

## **Annual Work Plan 2026 (Item 5.6)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

### **Moved (Couper/Crawford)**

1. That the report 'Annual Work Plan 2026' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 25 February 2026, be received.
2. That the Joint Regional Economic Development Committee agrees to the Annual Work Plan 2026 as set out in Attachment 1 to this report.

**Carried**

## **Northland Infrastructure Plan - Update (Item 5.7)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

### **Moved (Lambeth/Vujcich)**

That the report 'Northland Infrastructure Plan - Update' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 18 February 2026, be received.

**Carried**

## **Lake Ōmāpere Project - Briefing for Joint Committee (Item 5.8)**

**Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor**

### **Moved (Crawford/Vujcich)**

That the report 'Lake Ōmāpere Project - Briefing for Joint Committee' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 25 February 2026, be received.

**Carried**

## **Regional Infrastructure Fund - Update on projects (Item 5.9)**

**Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor**

### **Moved (Vujcich/Couper)**

That the report 'Regional Infrastructure Fund - Update on projects' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 25 February 2026, be received.

**Carried**

## **Economic Update - Infometrics Regional Economic Profile 2025 (Item 5.10)**

**Report from Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist**

### **Moved (McKenzie/Vujcich)**

That the report 'Economic Update - Infometrics Regional Economic Profile 2025' by Codie McIntyre, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 13 February 2026, be received.

**Carried**

## **Whakamutunga (Conclusion)**

**The meeting concluded at 1pm.**