

YMCA New Zealand 2026 Annual Report





OUR PURPOSE

To lead and promote the Y movement across Aotearoa New Zealand in partnership with member Associations.



STRATEGIC OUTCOME SOUGHT

For the Y movement to still be relevant and making a significant impact in 100 years time.



OUR VALUES

Caring:	To love others, to be sensitive to the well-being of others, to help others	Atawhaitia:	Awahi mai, awahi atu tatou tatou e
Respect:	To treat others as you would have them treat you; to value the worth of every person including yourself	Whakanuia:	Me whakanuia i te tangata, ahakoa ko wai, ahakoa no kea
Honesty:	To tell the truth, to act in such a way that you are worthy of trust, to have integrity; making sure your choices match your values	Te whakapono:	Kia mau, kia u ki te whakapono i nga wa katoa
Responsibility:	To do what is right, what you ought to do, to be accountable for your behaviour and obligations	Te kawenga atu:	Te mahi tatika, mau e whakapai atu to huarahi tika, te kawenga atu hoki

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The Y North Te Wairoa River Restoration

National Board President and Secretary-General's Report



Bridget-Mary McGown
President



Paul Dalton
Secretary General

Dear Presidents and Stakeholders

The 2025 year marked a shift from establishing direction to delivering on it. Following the significant foundational work of the previous year, including the new Constitution and Membership Agreement, 2025 was characterised by purposeful action, deeper collaboration across the movement, and a growing focus on the long-term sustainability of YMCANZ and its Associations.

Future of the Movement: Setting the Direction for the Years Ahead

A major focus of the year was leading the Future of the Movement (FOM) discussions. These conversations brought Associations together to identify the activities required for the movement to both survive and thrive in a rapidly changing environment. Four workstreams emerged:

1. Economic Sustainability
2. Brand
3. Global Connections
4. AI

Many of YMCANZ's existing activities already aligned with these themes, prompting a deeper look at whether current efforts were sufficient or whether more significant change was needed.

Views have mixed on this, as there are varying perspectives across Associations on how serious the issues are and the level of change required (incremental vs step change). Some Associations are comfortable that continuing on 'as we are' will achieve the desired success, while others are seeing a need to work very differently. As we have discussed this further (most recently at the March combined meeting) it is clear that 100% alignment isn't realistic, but equally this must not hold us back.

The National Board, in its planning session at the end of the 2025 year took this thinking and feedback into account, and concluded that with a few minor tweaks the 2025-27 YMCANZ Strategic Framework was still on the right track and the work that needs to be done for the FOM workstreams dovetails into the five existing strategic pillars, i.e.

- Resilience
- Facilitate Support
- Leverage the Collective Capability
- Communication and Connection
- Building the Movement

From this, the Board identified several areas where it will take on more direct governance-level leadership in 2026–27:

1. Reinventing the Business Model

Using Christchurch as a test bed for a new, replicable approach to business model design. This includes exploring alternative models for OSCAR and ECE and working more closely with individual Associations facing business challenges.

2. Building the National Brand

Prioritising brand development in early 2026, using the World Alliance Vision 2030 as the foundation.

3. Revenue Growth

Strengthening fundraising as a meaningful revenue stream for both YMCANZ and Associations and supporting targeted expansion of the education business. A Board Steering Group has been established.

4. Connection and Upskilling

Deepening knowledge-sharing with Y Australia and building relationships with organisations whose experience can strengthen our capability.

Delivering on the Strategy: Key Achievements in 2025

Alongside the FOM work, the YMCANZ team delivered a substantial programme of work across the movement. Highlights included:

- Securing maximum TEC funding and supporting Associations delivering Education. This work was recognised nationally with the ITENZ 2025 Provider of the Year and Supreme Award.
- Supporting Associations to pursue revenue growth opportunities and exploring new revenue streams for YMCANZ to reduce reliance on levies.
- Providing direct sustainability support to Associations, including \$82,500 in Soldiers Trust distributions.
- Coordinating best-practice sharing through Communities of Practice and other mechanisms.
- Developing “ideal” business models for OSCAR, ECE, and gyms to support benchmarking.
- Completing regular stocktakes of financial and property challenges across the movement.
- Developing stakeholder relationship plans and facilitating cost-saving discussions.
- Completing the Safeguarding project, with comprehensive resources and self-assessment tools now available.
- Maintaining strong platforms for CE and President engagement.
- Introducing a quarterly Statement of Expectations report for Presidents and monthly work-plan updates for CE’s.
- Delivering the 2025 Convention and Awards.
- Developing a Communications Strategy and beginning work to better tell the story of the movement’s impact.
- Developing an Advocacy Strategy and making multiple submissions on government proposals affecting the movement.
- Reconnecting with Y Australia and strengthening engagement with the World Alliance.
- Updating logo guidelines and refreshing outdated sections of the national website.
- Completing initial investigations into re-entry into the Christchurch and Dunedin markets.
- Conducting and reporting on the 2024 and 2025 Association Satisfaction Surveys.

This work has provided a strong platform for continued momentum into 2026 and beyond.

Financial Performance

The Board is pleased to report a \$310k surplus for the 2025 financial year. However, it is important to note that this includes \$43k of net investment returns from the Soldiers Trust and Y Foundation. The underlying operational surplus was \$267k.

Key contributors included:

- \$85k from a one-off debt collection from YMCA Christchurch (now The Kind Foundation), with the related expenditure to occur in 2026.
- \$203k of unbudgeted levy income resulting from \$1.37m of additional TEC funding for Associations. This enabled further investment in education delivery, student scholarships and the creation of a new PTE team role for 2026.

Given the targeted investments planned for 2026–27, particularly those supporting the Board’s “heavy lifting” initiatives—this level of profitability is not expected to continue in the short term. However, the surpluses of the past two years have strengthened the balance sheet and improved organisational resilience.

Board Capability and Governance

The Board continued to focus on its own capability and succession. We welcomed Steve Clarke and Peter Fergusson at the May 2025 AGM, and Chelsey Roos, who replaced Shona Ballinger following her move overseas. We also established two Board Steering Groups- Fundraising and New Business Models/Christchurch Growth to provide targeted governance support in these priority areas.

Acknowledgements

We extend our sincere thanks to our Board members, particularly David Jones and Shona Ballinger, who stepped down during the year, the YMCANZ staff team, and the boards and staff of all ten Associations. Your commitment, collaboration, and belief in the movement’s purpose have underpinned the progress made in 2025.

While challenges remain, the work undertaken this year, combined with the momentum of the Future of the Movement discussions, gives us confidence that we are heading in the right direction.

Best wishes to you all for 2026 and beyond.

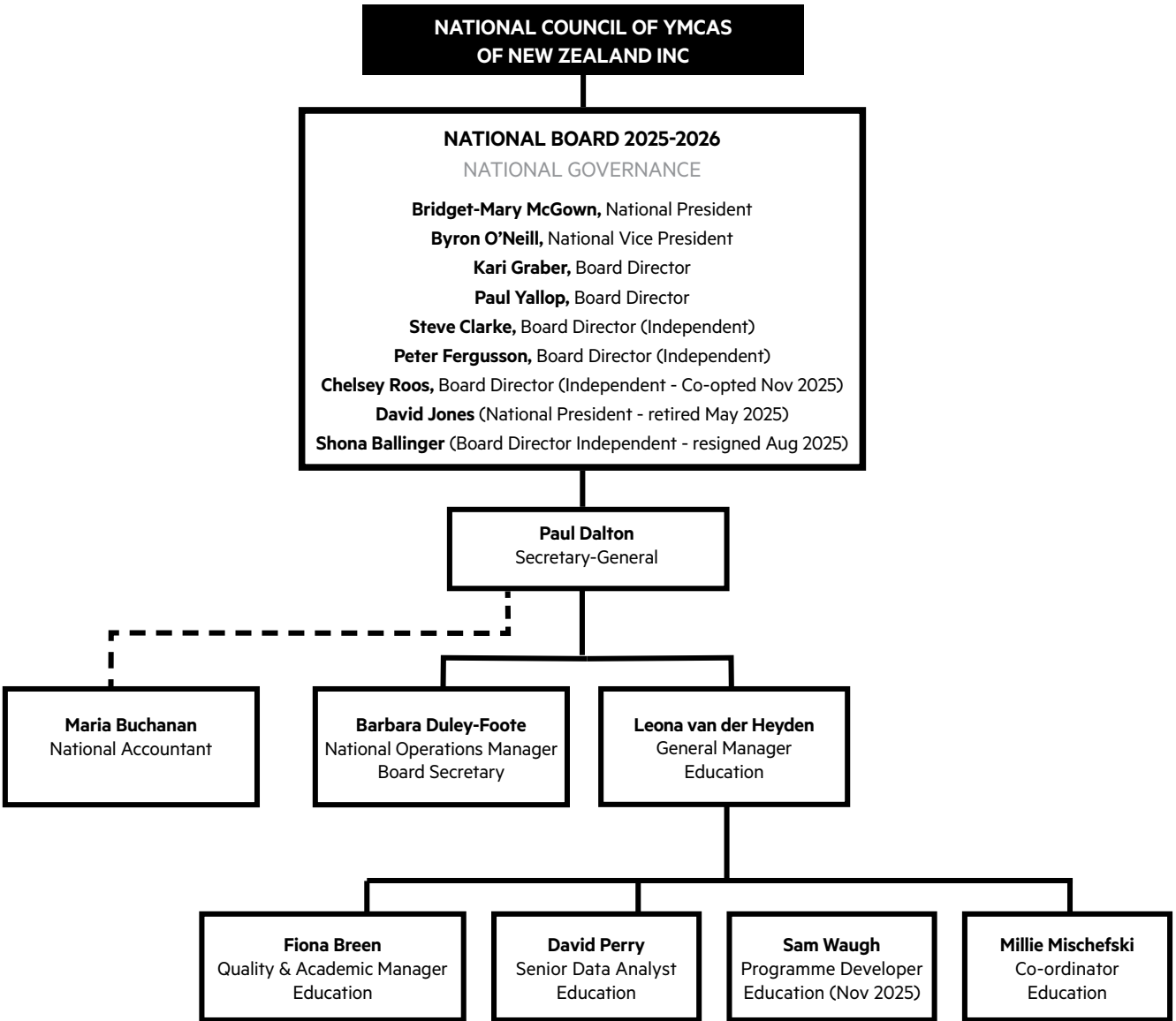


Bridget-Mary McGown
President



Paul Dalton
Secretary General

The YMCA New Zealand Structure



LIFE MEMBERS:

Claire Ballantyne (Christchurch), **James Barnes** (Gisborne), **Ken Durbin** (Auckland), **Leigh Gibson** (Gisborne), **John Fairhurst** (Auckland), **John Flowers** (New Plymouth), **David Jones** (Auckland), **David Kranz** (Auckland), **Paul Le Gros** (Nelson), **Peter Waterhouse** (Auckland).

Financials

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YMCAs OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

REVENUE	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue from Providing Services	6,541,091	5,528,187
Association fees	663,665	525,012
Interest	30,333	39,735
Investment Gains	99,764	103,452
Other revenue	40,790	49,059
TOTAL REVENUE	7,375,643	6,245,445
EXPENSES		
Expense from Providing Services	6,428,269	5,432,850
Support costs	569,924	530,371
Grants	67,876	5,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,066,069	5,968,221
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	309,574	277,224

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YMCAs OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

ASSETS	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts	858,118	666,663
Term Deposits	400,000	500,000
Education Services Receivable	126,599	-
Accounts Receivable	4,890	12,714
Accrued Interest	4,716	4,640
Pre-payments	3,334	-
Non-Current Assets	1,397,658	1,184,017
Office Equipment	3,376	6,355
Investments	1,143,514	1,134,667
	1,146,890	1,141,022
Total assets	2,544,548	2,325,039
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accruals and GST	122,675	185,630
Education Services Payable	308,884	335,994
Total Liabilities	431,559	521,624
NET ASSETS	2,112,989	1,803,415
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	2,112,989	1,803,415

Note: The summary above has not been audited separately, so if the reader wants total certainty the numbers in these extracted financial statements reflect exactly what is in the Full Audited Financial Statements of the National Council of YMCAs, you can request a copy or find them on the Charities website.

Financials

The reporting entity is the National Council of YMCAs of New Zealand Incorporated (National Council), incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and registered as a Charity on 15 February 2008, registration number CC21153.

The Consolidated Financial Statements incorporate The YMCA, New Zealand Soldiers Great War Memorial Trust ('Soldiers Trust') and the YMCA Foundation for the part of the year before it was merged with the Soldiers Trust. The National Council has the right to appoint the Trustees of the Soldiers Trust and the YMCA Foundation and to benefit from the Trusts and therefore is deemed to have control over the Trusts.

The Soldiers Trust had a good year with income of **\$101,584** offsetting grants of **\$62,876** leaving a surplus of **\$38,708** to contribute to the overall consolidated surplus for the 'Group' of **\$309,574**. The Y Foundation also contributed **\$3,970** towards that result before it was merged into the Soldiers Trust during the year.

The YMCANZ 'parent' surplus of **\$266,895** was also a good result for the year, but not fully indicative of true trading performance due to the 'one-off' collection of the last part of the historical Y Christchurch debt (**\$84,758**) that was not offset by expenditure in 2025 (this is budgeted to occur in 2026), and unbudgeted education levies (**\$203,524**) as a result of additional TEC revenue. While a significant part of the extra levies allowed additional investment into education in 2025, the balance is reflected in the 'bottom line' to allow for future investments.

Budgets for 2026 and beyond do not envisage this strong level of surplus to continue, due to a number of areas where strategic investments will be required as part of the 'Future of the Movement' workstreams. However, the results of the last two years have been instrumental in allowing the organisation to be in a position to make those future investments.

Full accounts of the National Council of YMCAs have been audited and are available on request.

2025 Soldiers Trust Distribution

During the 2025 year, the Trustees of The YMCA New Zealand Soldiers Great War Memorial Trust ('Soldiers Trust') approved for distribution **\$80,876** across the following initiatives:

ASSOCIATION	INITIATIVES
Combined	Contribution to send 15 x Association Youth Workers to the 2025 Ara Taiohi 'Involve' Conference
North	Support the Raise Up Programme
Gisborne	Support the Raise Up Programme
Central	Pilot two 'Thrive & Shine' 3-day outdoor camps, partnering with local schools and local Marae.
Central South Island	Seed funding for 'Bridging the Gap', an initiative building youth provision capability for Mackenzie District Youth.
Invercargill	Support to develop and deliver youth development programmes for young people with disabilities.

PTE (Education)

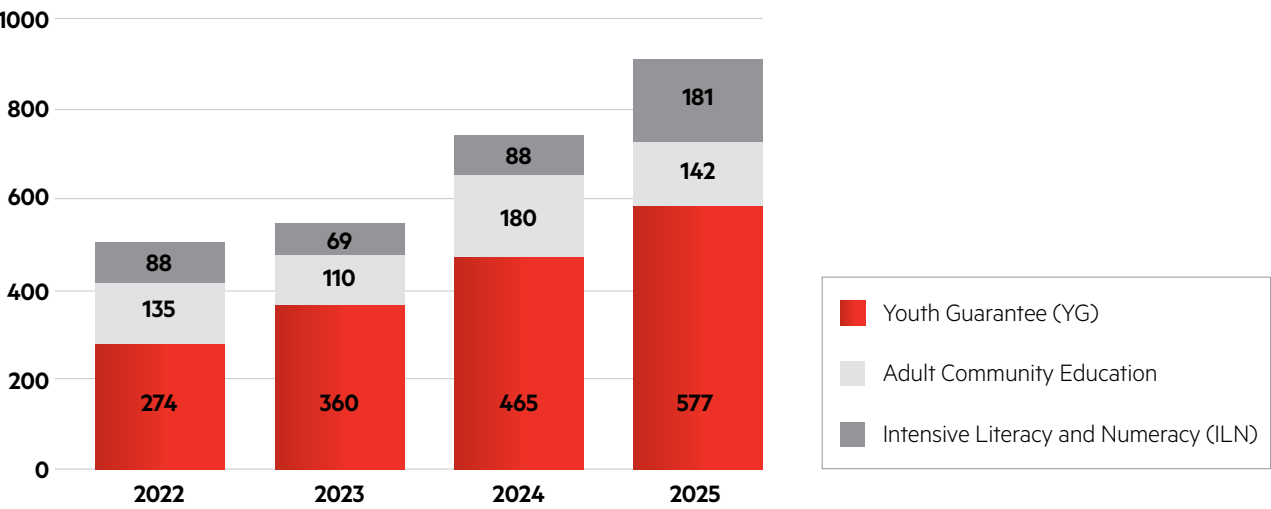
2025 was an exceptional year for the PTE and the five Associations delivering the programmes. We continued to build on our growth trajectory while maintaining a strong focus on quality and our commitment to placing learners at the centre of everything we do.

The following highlights reflect the key achievements for 2025.

Enrolments and Funding

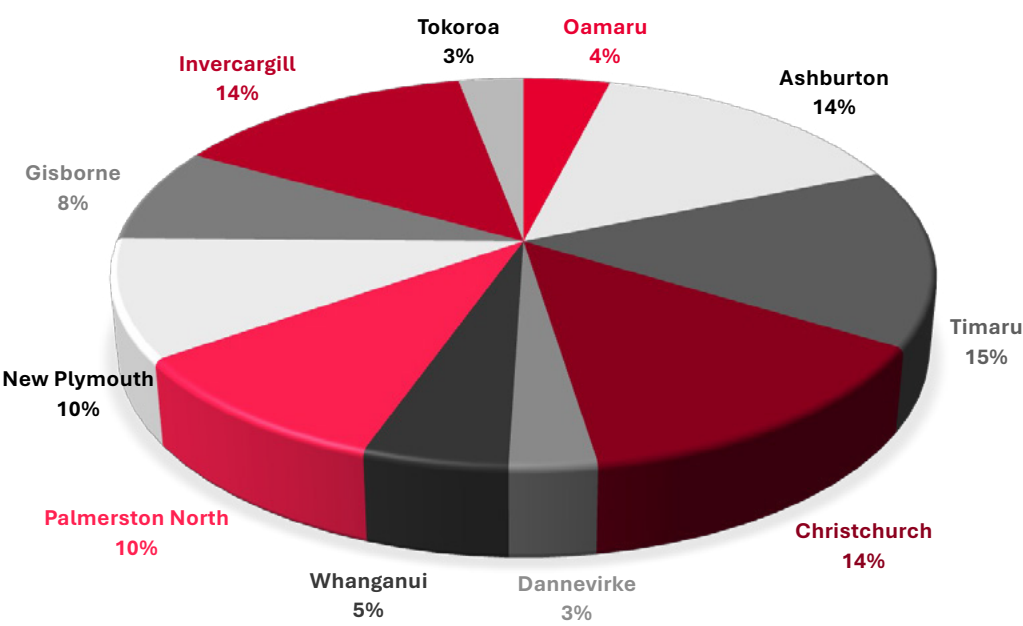
2025 saw another increase in the number of learners enrolling into our programmes with 900 enrolments overall, compared to 733 in 2024, with both our Youth Guarantee and ILN programmes seeing significant increases.

ENROLMENTS IN Y EDUCATION PROGRAMMES BY YEAR



Delivery of the programmes was spread across Aotearoa as shown below, noting that each site is managed by a local Y Association:

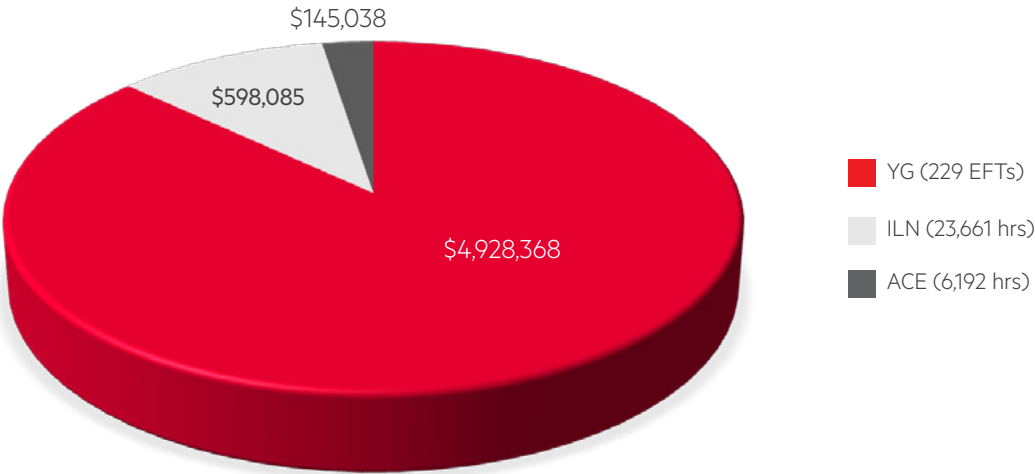
% OF ENROLMENTS BY SITE



With the increase in enrolments, our funding from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) also significantly increased following a successful bid for additional funding. And most importantly, all the allocated TEC funding was fully utilised, a major achievement for the PTE.

The breakdown of our achieved funding is shown below:

FUNDING ACHIEVED

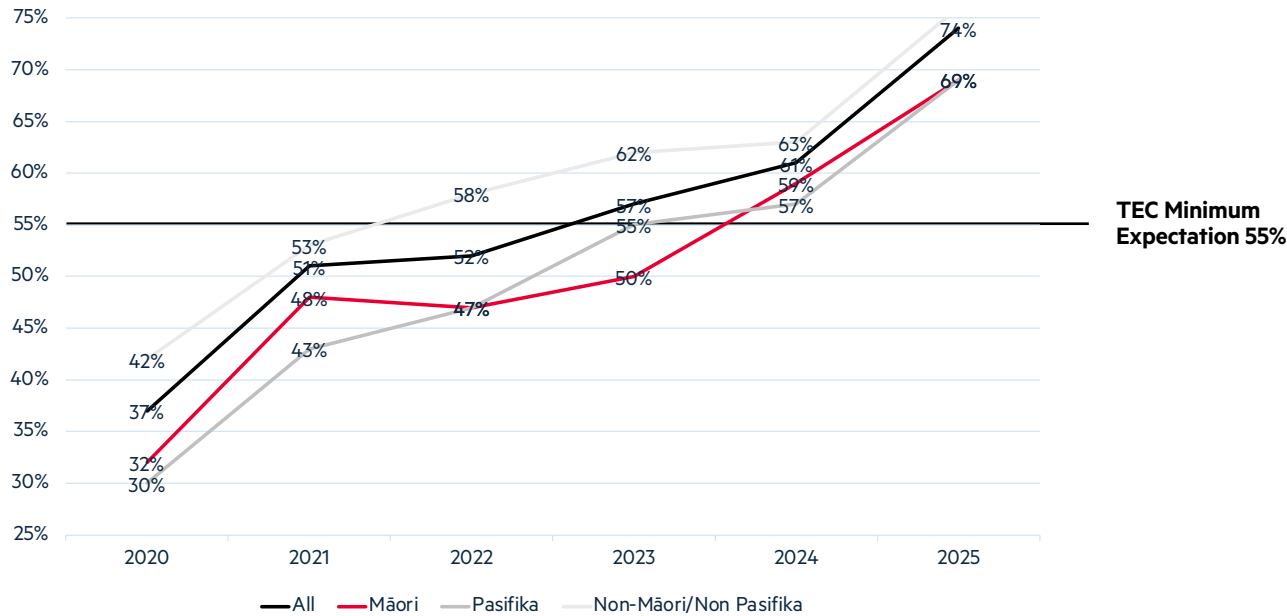


Learner Achievements and Outcomes

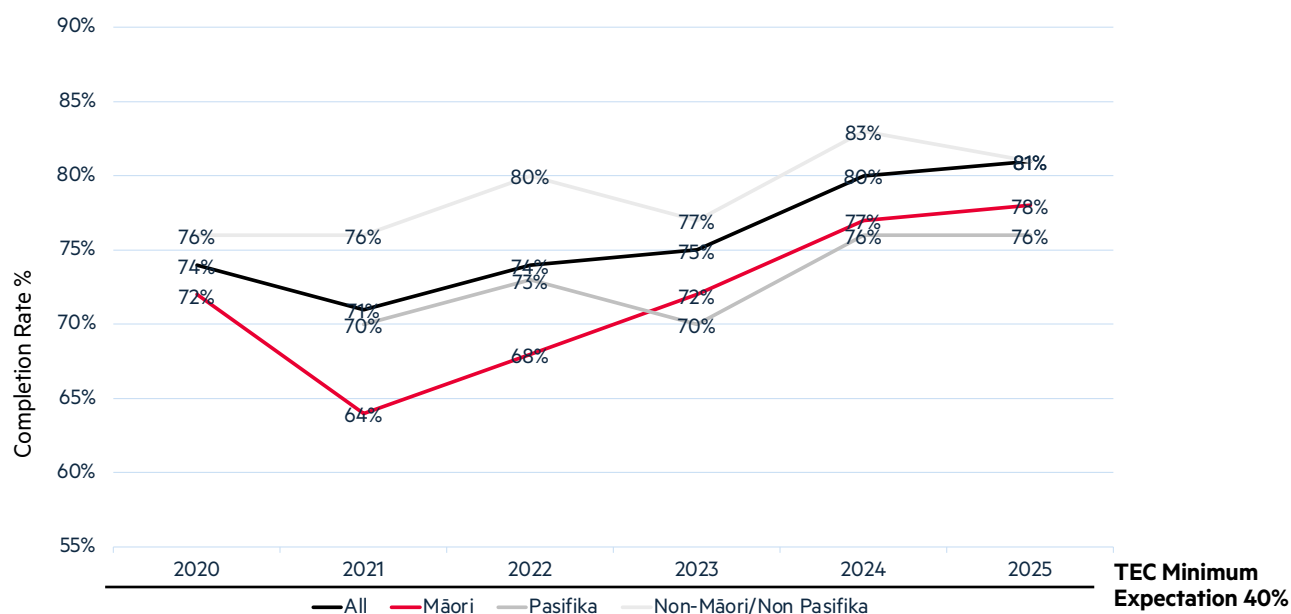
Our learners are continuing to achieve at high rates both in terms of Qualifications (measured by % of enrolments that resulted in achieving a full NZ Certificate) and Courses (measured by % of courses completed vs enrolled in).

Graphs below highlight these two achievement measures over time from 2020 to 2025.

QUALIFICATION COMPLETION RATES OVER TIME



COURSE COMPLETION RATES OVER TIME



Improvements are being made year on year for both Qualification and Completion rates.

- The gap between Māori and non-Māori achievement is reducing.
- Our completion rates are well above the 40% minimum expectations set by TEC (published in 2026).
- We are now at achievement levels that are high and stable– our goal moving forward in 2026 and beyond is to maintain these.

Telling our Story

In 2025 we embarked on developing a brand story, strategy and marketing plan. Raising the awareness of Education has been a long-term goal in our strategic plan and we are very happy to finally be in a position to successfully launch a strong brand story. This resulted in new messaging, a stand-alone Education website, social media campaigns and new advertising material. A highlight of this work was the production of our learner hero videos, showcasing learners across our sites sharing their stories of success and journey with us. They are a mix of current learners, recent and past graduates and the videos can be viewed on the Education website.



Top Left to Right: Tremayne from Whānganui, Kylie from Christchurch, Kiani from Palmerston North, Matty from Dannevirke.

Bottom Left to Right: Zoey from Christchurch, Tiaoa from Christchurch, Alyssa from Christchurch and Shyvana from Whānganui.

In summary, congratulations to the Education teams at Y South Waikato, Y Taranaki, Y Gisborne, Y Central South Island and Y Invercargill for an outstanding year of delivery.

Awards Recognition

YMCA NEW ZEALAND AWARDS MAY 2025

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:

Leigh Gibson

Joining YMCA Gisborne in 1984 as a volunteer Board Director, Leigh had served for 15 years (including time as President) in that volunteer capacity before becoming Chief Executive (CE) in March 1999. She held that role until her retirement in December 2024, spanning over 25 years. Over time, she gradually built and transformed the organisation by seeking government-funded programmes and scanning the environment for growth opportunities.

Building on the success of youth, fitness, and education initiatives seen across the wider national movement, she courageously ventured into the early childhood sector, where significant growth followed for Y Gisborne, with two Early Childhood Centres and an OSCAR programme. She was responsible for establishing several other new services, including Alternative Education, providing nutritious school lunches, free community health and wellbeing classes, introducing Les Mills fitness classes to Gisborne, launching Raise Up locally, and most recently entering trades education by taking over the operations of Gisborne Development Incorporated.

Leigh also served as a member of the Executive Committee for the World Urban Network for 15 years. Through this involvement, she has witnessed firsthand the work undertaken by YMCA's worldwide in diverse and challenging conditions, bringing this experience back to New Zealand. She has also supported many young people to experience and learn through attendance at global YMCA conventions or work opportunities. As a result of her efforts, the Y has become a respected cornerstone of community life, continually expanding its services, deepening its reach, and becoming a trusted resource for countless families and individuals, which earned her the Queen's Service Medal for outstanding service to the Y in 2010.



David Jones

David was appointed as a director of the YMCA Auckland (now Y North) Board in 1997, and twenty-eight years later, he remains a dedicated board member. Prior to 1997, he served on the advisory board for YMCA Auckland.

Throughout his time at Y North, he has held various roles, including multiple terms as President, a long-standing member of the Remuneration Committee, as well as providing legal advice and sound governance guidance to the board and the senior executive team of Y North. His leadership has helped Y North manage significant organisational challenges, most recently during the extended Covid lockdown when trading was temporarily halted. In recognition of his outstanding service, he was awarded life membership of Y North in 2008.

David also served on the YMCANZ National Board during periods of considerable stress and change, where his contribution has been invaluable. His inspired governance has steered the board through various operational and strategic hurdles and fostered a culture of transparency, accountability, and collaboration with members.

Additionally, he has contributed significantly to "The YMCA, NZ Soldiers Great War Memorial Trust." There, his efforts have ensured the protection and growth



of the fund's capital for the future, allowing the Trust to support the Y community without compromising the original capital provided by New Zealand soldiers in 1918. David exemplifies the vision and values of the YMCA, with his work both locally and nationally.

NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

Initiated in 1991, the Presidential Award is to acknowledge distinguished local service given by a volunteer over a long period as recognised by the National President.

The 2025 recipients were:

- Dave Madden – YMCA Invercargill
- Paul Rabbitt YMCA Invercargill
- Barrie Suter – YMCA Central South Island
- Elizabeth Daniels – YMCA South Waikato
- John Flowers – YMCA Taranaki
- Bridget-Mary McGown – YMCA Invercargill



Elizabeth Daniels



Barrie Suter

George Briggs Youth Award – YMCA North for Mentor Me: Raise Up Youth Mentoring

Awarded to a YMCA that has developed an initiative in Youth Development

This mentoring programme primarily focuses on rainbow youth, young women, and Pacifica youth, but remains open to all rangatahi in need of support. Mentors are referred by school counsellors, parents, DHB clinicians, and social workers, or they can apply directly.

Initiated in January 2024, it aims to listen to and respond to the needs of high-risk young people aged 13-21 who are vulnerable to disengagement from secondary school, tertiary education, or meaningful employment. The programme works with these young individuals on a one-on-one basis to:

- Build a trusted connection with a support figure to identify why they are disconnecting from school or work.
- Support them in developing the skills and resilience they need.
- Keep them connected and engaged, either in their current path or by finding a new approach.

Innovation in a New Initiative Award – YMCA Central Te Pokapū Hapori – Community Wellbeing Hub

Awarded for excellence in creating a new initiative

YMCA Central identified a need in their community through existing relationships with local agencies and residents, many of whom lacked safe, welcoming public spaces with accessible daily support and connection to the local community. At that time, this was worsened by the pandemic's impact, the growing housing crisis, and social dislocation. The solution was developed through kōrero with the Council, community partners, and residents. The concept was simple yet powerful: a community hub open every day offering free tea and coffee, internet, and conversation – no sign-up, no cost, just connection. Overlaid on this were free programmes in wellness (yoga, Tai Chi, Spin Poi), learning (Survival English), creativity (jewellery making), and support (People First, Youthline, CAB).

From the YMCA's perspective, while a new step, it aligned directly with the World YMCA's Vision 2030 pillars, specifically:

- Community Wellbeing: fostering belonging, connection, and resilience.
- A Just World: ensuring access to support, services, and voice for all – especially those underserved or marginalised.

The initiative came to a close in June 2025 after nearly three years of strong delivery, following changes in local government funding priorities. Its success has highlighted the value of the concept.



Strengthening Families Award – YMCA North for Massey Gym and Leisure Centre Junior Basketball

Awarded for excellence in running an ongoing programme or special event, which strengthens families

The Y is the home of basketball – and it's fitting that a Y facility is using basketball as a tool to ignite a shared love of sport, encourage being active together, and create opportunities for families to connect and grow.

This initiative complemented what was already being offered by the regional basketball organisation and provided the Y team

with the chance to help meet the rising demand for basketball in the area. It also used the sport as a means for families to connect through various initiatives. A WIN/WIN outcome!

As a bonus, the programme maximises access to basketball courts, which are a limited resource, and optimises the use and occupancy of this Centre's space

The success of the Y can be measured by how well we demonstrate our relevance and value to the families of 2025. This Y has leveraged its heritage link to basketball (the fastest-growing sport in New Zealand) as a way to build connections, support, and strengthen bonds among today's families.

The Y that Catches the Eye Award – YMCA Central South Island for Y Drive

Awarded to a Y that has conducted a successful promotion or special event that lifts the Y's community profile and credibility.

What started as an adjunct to YMCA Central South Island's education and employment pathways programmes and services, providing ākongā and job seekers with education and employment support, has grown significantly into a material delivery arm of the YMCA Central South Island.

In 2022, they delivered more than 100 driver licence test passes, with two instructors employed. For the year ended 31 January 2025, 6 instructors are now employed, with more than 500 test passes achieved in the last year.

This programme was designed to "open doors" to members of the YMCA Central South Island community who might otherwise have missed. It is important now more than ever, that people get the best chance to be independent, self-sufficient, progress into employment and be socially connected.

This vital driver licence service has now been extended to support the growing Pasifika community across their rohe. Last year they took the testing 'on the road' in an innovative move to make it more accessible and in two days achieved an over 90% pass rate, primarily for those in the Pasifika and migrant communities.



Leading by Example – Robyn Bye YMCA Invercargill

Award is for excellence in being mission driven and putting YMCA values into practice.

Robyn Bye was the recipient of this award, demonstrating outstanding leadership in inclusion, consistently embodying the Y's core values of caring, honesty, responsibility, and respect, and leading by example by creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities. She inspired others to prioritise inclusion, empathy, and accessibility in every aspect of their work.

Robyn supported over 80 individuals with disabilities each week, ensuring they have accessible and inclusive opportunities to participate in activities that enhance their physical, emotional, and social well-being. Their approach to inclusion goes beyond simply accommodating people with disabilities — they actively create spaces where individuals are empowered to grow, learn, and contribute, proving that inclusion should be a fundamental value

in all Y programming. A prime example of their leadership is the Y Not Squad, where young people with disabilities come together weekly to try new activities such as rock climbing, soccer, line dancing, boxing, and much more.

They also model the importance of stepping outside of one's comfort zone, encouraging participants to do the same. Working closely with a local primary school, they have guided children with disabilities through fundamental movement skills by demonstrating to teachers and aides that it's not only achievable but vital to integrate these children into physical activity. This sets a powerful example of leading with compassion and practicality.



ITENZ Awards

Recognition for the National Council of YMCAs of New Zealand (Private Training Establishment)

The PTE was awarded **two prestigious tertiary education awards** at the annual **ITENZ (Independent Tertiary Education NZ) Awards** held in September 2025:

- **Provider of the Year** – This award honours organisations that have demonstrated excellence in organisational capability and significant strategic leadership that positively impacts the business, its learners, staff, the wider community, and the industry.
- **Supreme Award Winner** – Selected from the award winners, recognising outstanding achievement and excellence.

This was a significant achievement for the PTE, acknowledging us as a **high performing, outstanding tertiary education provider** that makes a positive impact for our learners.

In accepting the awards, recognition was given to everyone involved in education, including the national team, Associations, tutors, support staff, CEs and Managers, all of whom have contributed to making the PTE the successful and recognised tertiary education provider it is today. Learners were also acknowledged as the central reason for our work and the focus of everything we do, supporting them to be successful and backing them throughout their journeys.



PTE Learner Pathway Grants

In November 2025, we launched the inaugural Education Learner Pathway Grant, a dedicated initiative designed to propel graduates into their next phase of life, whether that be further study, apprenticeships, or the workforce. The grant was established to remove the financial hurdles that often stand between a learner and their long-term goals.

The grant is designed to be uniquely flexible, tailored to the specific needs of the individual. Funding is categorised based on the learner's chosen path, and funding is distributed with up to \$3,500 for tertiary study or advanced training costs, up to \$1,000 for costs associated with seeking employment and up to \$750 for essential tools or equipment for trade placements, giving students real support for real needs.

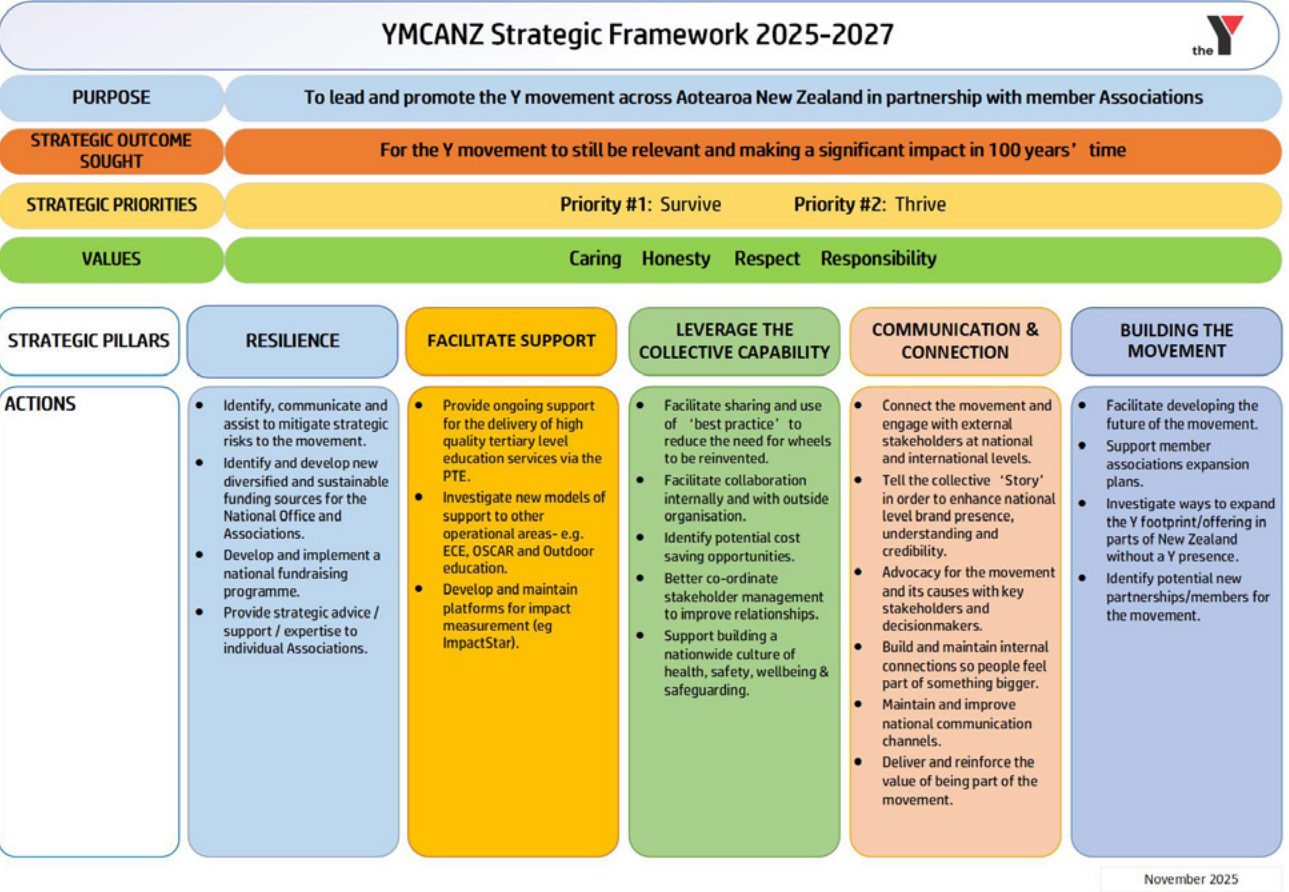
Much like a scholarship, an application process was put in place and all learners who graduated in 2025 were eligible to apply. The selection criteria is based on a clear and defined "next step" pathway, evidence of commitment and readiness for the next stage or a demonstration of how the grant will remove specific barriers to their future pathway. 15 learners were awarded the grant, amounting to \$24,000 in total. Congratulations to the following recipients:

Name	Site	To Support
Wyatt Climo	Ashburton	Further education, specifically course costs for Automotive Level 3 at Ara.
Sapphire Evans	Ashburton	Further education, specifically course costs for Animal Care L3 at SIT (direct course costs, related costs and support for a laptop)
Matty Tengu	Dannevirke	Getting employment - forklift operator training, farming safety gear.
Keegan Budgen-Docherty	Invercargill	Getting employment - first aid training, clothing for interviews
Breeze Tither	Invercargill	Further education, specifically course and related costs to attend pre-trades programme at Otago Polytechnic.
Maliyah Gavan	Invercargill	Further education, specifically course and related costs to attend flight instructor course.
Matthew Woodhouse	Oamaru	Further education, specifically course and related costs to attend and complete electrical pre-trade programme in Dunedin.
Brooklyn Edwards	Palmerston North	Getting employment - first aid training, clothing for interviews
Tyla Clyma	Timaru	Getting employment, specifically costs for equipment required to work in the building industry.
Jaisas Tatti	Timaru	Getting employment - driving lessons (with interpreter), clothing and other costs to get work ready.
Oliver Jones	Timaru	Further education, specifically course and related costs to attend and complete Health and Wellbeing Level 4 at Ara.
Hayley-Jade Davis	Whanganui	Further education, specifically course and related costs to attend and complete a nail technician course.
Dakota Issac	Y Trades Gisborne	Getting employment, specifically costs for equipment required to work in the automotive industry.
Jamie Ogie	Y Trades Gisborne	Getting employment, specifically costs for equipment required to work in the automotive industry.
Destiny Gutsell	Invercargill	Getting employment, specifically costs to attend interviews, clothing and safety gear.

We look forward to following our graduates as they journey on their pathway to success. The grant will continue in 2026 with two application rounds to align with our mid and end year graduations.

Strategic Framework

At the end of 2025, the Strategic Framework for YMCANZ was updated, with some minor changes heading into the second year of its three-year timeframe. The updated version is below:



The Y North Raise Up Walk The Line 2025

In Memoriam



Maurice “Maurie” Rendle, Distinguished YMCA Leader

The YMCA community mourns the passing of Maurice (Maurie) Rendle, whose visionary leadership and lifelong dedication left an enduring mark on the organisation and the communities it serves.

Maurie began his career as a Physical Training Instructor and commissioned officer in the Royal New Zealand Air Force before joining the YMCA on 4 June 1972. His leadership abilities were quickly recognised, and by 1974 he was appointed General

Manager of YMCA Auckland (North), a position he would hold with distinction until his retirement in 1996.

During his tenure, Maurie oversaw a period of remarkable innovation and growth. He established the Businessman's Health Centre, a pioneering initiative that prefigured the modern fitness industry, as well as the YMCA Marathon Club, Children's Outdoor Education Camps and Holiday Programmes and the Cardiac Rehabilitation Clinic in collaboration with Dr Laurie Reynolds. These initiatives not only broadened the YMCA's impact but also reflected Maurie's deep commitment to community wellbeing and lifelong education.

Maurie's influence extended well beyond Auckland. He played a pivotal role in shaping the YMCA movement nationally, earning Life Memberships of both YMCA Auckland and YMCA National in recognition of his outstanding service. His calm efficiency, a hallmark of his military background, inspired respect from colleagues, employees and life members alike.

Upon his retirement, Maurie was remembered as a mentor, colleague and friend whose legacy would endure for generations. As one tribute so aptly expressed, "A great tōtara has fallen." His contributions to the YMCA and to New Zealand society were both immeasurable and indelible, and his vision continues to guide the organisation's mission today.

Maurie is survived by his wife Marilyn and their whānau, to whom the YMCA extends its deepest sympathies.



David Perry

The Y lost a dearly loved and respected team member and friend, David Perry, in early 2026. David was part of the organisation for almost 8 years in his role as Senior Data Analyst and was well regarded by those he worked with across the Y and the wider tertiary education sector. His integrity and commitment to the work that we do, our staff and our learners were evident - he has been an integral part of the YMCA National Office Team, and we have been an integral part of his journey.



Barry Hislop

Barry's journey with the YMCA started in the early 1970s after serving in the Royal New Zealand Navy as a physical education trainer. From those early days, it was clear that his commitment went far beyond just running programmes. At his core, he was a builder of people, community, and purpose.

Throughout his career, Barry held leadership roles across the YMCA in New Zealand, including serving as Chief Executive in both Masterton and Upper Hutt. In each role, he worked to

make the YMCA a welcoming place focused on connection and wellbeing. His impact wasn't just seen in facilities or services, but also in the lives of those he mentored, supported, and inspired.

Outside of the YMCA, Barry made a notable contribution to sport and community development on a national level. His work with athletes, coaches, and organisations, including those at Olympic and Paralympic levels, reflected the same core values that defined his YMCA service. He strongly believed in developing the whole person and in leadership's responsibility to uplift others.

In his later years, Barry continued generously sharing his time and experience as a board member of Y Central, where his insight and steady advice helped the organisation navigate periods of change and growth. In recognition of his efforts, Barry was awarded Life Membership in 2023. Most recently, he played an important role in revitalising Y Central's position in Masterton. His connection to the YMCA remained deep right to the end, a true reflection of his lifelong dedication to its mission.

Barry often spoke of the YMCA as a place of welcome, friendship, and shared purpose. He consistently embodied these values with humility and integrity. His legacy lives on not only through the roles he held but also through the many individuals and communities strengthened by his influence.



Tony Jones

Tony Jones (Y Auckland), Y New Zealand past National Board Director 2007-2011 and National President 2011-2012 on 29 September 2025. Tony was awarded Life Membership of Y North in 2014.

Previous National Life Members who have passed:

Peter Darracott (Wellington)

John Donkin (Hawkes Bay)

Bernard Downey (Nelson)

Alva Faul (Invercargill)

Ross Grantham (National CEO, Washington DC)

Graham Glaister (Auckland)

Terry Hill (Christchurch)

Russell Leech (Timaru)

Pat Magill (Hawkes Bay)

Dennis Oliver (Hawkes Bay)

Sir Guy Powell (Wellington)

Chris Purcell (Wellington)

Maurie Rendle (Auckland)

Lomond Seel (Auckland)

Graeme Todd (Nelson)

John Wilkinson (Auckland)

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YMCA NATIONAL OFFICE

Pelorus Trust Sports House

93 Hutt Park Road

Moera

Lower Hutt 5010

+ 64 4 568 9622

national@ymca.org.nz

Charities Registration: CC21153

www.ymca.org.nz

Legal

Heimsath Alexander

Auditor

BDO Wellington



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