

6 July 2016

Lake City Athletics Club Inc
PO Box 2136
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Dear Dennis and Pam

On behalf of Athletics New Zealand, I would like to thank the Lake City Athletics Club for your continued support of the Lion Foundation Rotorua Marathon, by providing volunteers and marshals.

As we celebrated National Volunteer Awareness Week (June 19-25) recently we are grateful to all our volunteers, many who are club members, who support the Rotorua Marathon, and help facilitate such a wonderful event. The feedback we get year on year through the participant survey is how fantastic our volunteers are – and we agree! We literally could not run the event without volunteer support. So our heartfelt thank you to you all.

We're also grateful for the regular promotion of the event in the Rotorua area and within the club, and for every year entering so many runners.

You have also kindly continued to take care of the legendary Survivors Club, which has become a badge of honour for many marathon runners around the country who have taken on the lake 15 times or more.

The Rotorua Marathon, in its 52nd year is truly an iconic event and is a well-established highlight on the New Zealand running event calendar. The marathon has become part of the local heritage of Rotorua with so many people, organisations and businesses looking forward to the event each year.

This past running of the Rotorua Marathon however, had for the first time, significant competition from the Waitomo Trail Run in the Waikato on the same day, April 30, and the new Air New Zealand Hawkes Bay International Marathon (May 14, 2016). Both of these events impacted our numbers this year, and we are very mindful that the running landscape is continuously changing and we need to keep one step ahead.

With that in mind, we very much appreciated you representing Lake City Athletics Club at the review and strategy planning meeting in late May, with Paul Scoringe and Gareth Archer representing Athletics New Zealand. With your help, and those of Event Promotions, the Rotorua Lakes Council who were also in attendance, and our other partners, we aim to reinvigorate the event and re-establish its place as the leading marathon in New Zealand.

Please pass on our sincere appreciation to Lake City members for all their efforts in supporting the Rotorua Marathon. If this letter could be tabled at the next Club Committee meeting and shared with the club members, it would be appreciated.

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I attended the marathon this year and would also like to pass on my personal thanks and appreciation to the Lake City members. It is a truly wonderful event and one that I look forward to being at again in 2017.

We see ourselves as custodians for the event, as owners, but aware the Lake City Club is the guardian of the legacy of the event having organised it yourselves for 40 years.

We look forward very much to working alongside you in 2017 at the 53rd running of the Lion Foundation Rotorua Marathon and we already hope for a fabulous day and a great event.

Warm regards



Linda Hamersley
Chief Executive