



Clockwise from left: Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust Chair Evan Cottam, Pilot Fergus MacLachlan and Methanex Plant Manager Alistair Simmers; a methanol-powered vessel at Port Taranaki; the Motunui site, and Methanex staff and visitors in front of the Waitara Valley protected area.

## Business update

### Tēnā koe,

Thank you to all who have supported Methanex this year. It's been a trying year in many ways and we're all looking forward to the end of 2020 and a rest over the holiday break.

Despite challenges, there has also been much to celebrate in 2020. We're extremely proud of our safety record, celebrating a two-year milestone without an injury at work, our plants have been working efficiently to minimize emissions, and we've made good progress with several large maintenance projects and renewing resource consents. Unfortunately, challenges with gas supply have required us to alter our near term plans, however we remain

committed to investing in our plants to maintain safe and reliable operations in Taranaki.

We were also delighted to finalise the protection of a wetland area on farmland at our Waitara Valley site and renew our sponsorship with the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust. To top this all off, we're proud to be named a finalist in the NZ Energy Excellence Awards for our entry in the community category about strengthening hapū relationships.



**Best wishes for summer and the new year.**

**Noho ora mai.**

**Dean Richardson**  
Methanex NZ Managing Director.

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## Methanol fleet increasing

A methanol-powered vessel

More low-emission, methanol-powered vessels will be heading to Port Taranaki in the next few years.

Waterfront Shipping Company, a subsidiary of Methanex Corporation, has announced the addition of eight new methanol dual-fuel vessels as part of its renewal programme. The vessels will be built over the next two years in South Korea.

Waterfront Shipping president Paul

Hexter says about 60 percent of the 30-ship fleet will be powered by lower emission, methanol-fuel technology once the new vessels are delivered.

“We are excited to be expanding our methanol-fuelled fleet with these new vessels that benefit from the latest technological advances to optimise engine efficiency and performance.

“Having operated methanol-fuelled vessels for over four years now, we

know that methanol is a practical, cost-competitive and safe marine fuel for the commercial shipping industry to suit the latest regulations.”

The vessels, built in partnership with Marininvest/Skagerack Invest, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Meiji Shipping Co., Ltd, KSS Line Ltd. and Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd, add to the existing 11 methanol-fuelled ships in the fleet, which have been recognised by the marine industry for their use of clean-burning methanol as an alternative, lower emissions fuel.

The eight, 49,999 deadweight tonne vessels are being designed with two-stroke dual-fuel engines, meaning the vessels can run on methanol or traditional marine fuels.

As methanol can be produced from renewable sources, the vessels can also help meet the International Maritime Organisation’s decarbonisation goals without further investment or compatibility issues.

Methanex New Zealand Director of Business Development Stuart McCall says methanol is part of the solution in lowering emissions. “The technology we have pioneered can also be applied to other parts of the New Zealand shipping industry using a New Zealand made fuel.”

## Waitara Valley wetland protected

A significant wetland and native bush area at Waitara Valley has been protected for future generations to enjoy.

A Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) covenant was recently finalised for the area, deemed a Significant Natural Area by the Taranaki Regional Council, and a morning tea held to celebrate.

QEII Trust North Taranaki Representative Neil Phillips said it had been a long journey to protect the area, which will be protected in perpetuity, and he was pleased to place the signage naming its protected status.

“The area is a good example of a semi-coastal pukatea/kahikatea lowland swamp forest with a raupō wetland. It’s important as it meets the National

Priorities due to protecting indigenous vegetation associated with wetlands, and the forest is located on an acutely threatened environment where there is less than 10% of this type of vegetation remaining in Taranaki.

“Importantly, it provides habitat for a wide range of forest birds and other species and connects with other key native ecosystems in the area providing a vital corridor, extending all the way through to Mt Taranaki.”

A team of Methanex staff have worked on the protection and enhancement plan for about five years, which has included installing a new fence, a pest control programme, and planting days to increase native plants on the edge of the bush.

Methanex Managing Director Dean Richardson says the restoration work has made a huge difference. “The forest canopy has become more visually vibrant and there’s a noticeable increase in birdsong. On a walk of the area I was struck by its natural beauty and hearing the birds from afar.”



Neil Phillips, from the QEII Trust, and Gary Rielly, Methanex Environment Lead, in front of signage labelling the protected bush area

## Supporting a life-saving rescue service

Methanex New Zealand has renewed its support of the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust, which includes the naming rights for the Rescue Winch for the next three years.

Methanex Managing Director Dean Richardson says he's thrilled to announce the company's increased support of the Taranaki Helicopter Trust, which aligns with Methanex's focus on safety and wellbeing in communities in which the company operates.

"Methanex has supported the Helicopter Trust for more than twenty years and we've always acknowledged the vital service the Trust provides. This partnership increases our level of support and ensures the ongoing servicing and maintenance of the winch, which allows the crew access in difficult terrain to lift patients to safety," he says.

"Many of our staff enjoy the outdoors and our facilities are located in a rural community, and we're proud to support the life-saving services of the rescue helicopter. Fast and professional access to emergency services is vital to the Taranaki region."

Trust chair Evan Cottam says the Trust is extremely grateful for Methanex's commitment and support especially following a challenging 2020.

"The support from our community has already been overwhelming, and this injection from this successful local business consolidates that foundation and provides some certainty over the next three years," says Cottam.



Evan Cottam, Fergus MacLachlan and Alistair Simmers

The sponsorship will be acknowledged with branding on the rescue helicopter and the rescue winch officially dubbed the "Methanex Rescue Winch".

"It is because of sponsors like Methanex that our Rescue Helicopter remains one of the country's essential rescue helicopter services," Cottam says.

## Future leaders scholarships awarded

Fletcher Miles has plenty of knowledge to call on for his future career in the energy industry.

The University of Waikato student has been selected as a 2021 recipient of the Methanex New Zealand Undergraduate Scholarship for Future Leaders in Engineering, alongside University of Canterbury student Jennifer Berry.

"After my first year of university, I spent the summer holidays working in the Methanex New Zealand Technical Department drawing office, where I gained valuable experience," says Fletcher, who is completing a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Materials and Process Engineering.

"My parents work at Methanex, so I've been familiar with the company for many years."

The Methanex scholarships are for

students heading into their third year of study and are to support the development of skilled labour and the recruitment of talent into the industry.

Fletcher, a former New Plymouth Boys' High School student, has ambitions to become a process engineer "delivering intelligent and innovative solutions in the New Zealand petrochemical industry".

Jennifer, a former head girl at Hobsonville Point Secondary School in Auckland, is studying Mechanical Engineering and says she is excited for the potential pathways available.

"The near future will be one posing us all with the challenge to explore innovative and sustainable approaches to energy sourcing," she says.

"The petroleum industry, in particular, interests me as it not only plays a large

and important role in New Zealand's economy but also in supplying the demands for our way of life.

"I feel lucky to be able to follow what the industry is doing now and know it will be one endeavour I contribute towards."



Scholarship recipients Fletcher Miles and Jennifer Berry

# Helping out in 2020

Methanex is committed to supporting and investing in local Taranaki communities through sponsorships, grants, scholarships, gifts in kind and staff volunteering. We invest in initiatives resulting in social outcomes in the areas of health & safety and environment, education and community development. This year we are proud to have supported the following organisations:

Be Safe Taranaki  
Cape Egmont Half Marathon  
East Taranaki Environment Trust  
Energy Skills Science Fair  
Heart Foundation Taranaki  
Kiwi Christmas Books  
Lepperton School  
Leukaemia & Blood Cancer NZ (LBC)  
Make a Wish Foundation

Manukorihi Golf Club  
Manukorihi Intermediate School  
Mediaworks  
Methanex Bell Block Aquatic Centre  
Ngāti Rahiri Hapū  
North Taranaki Sport and Recreation Inc  
NP Sportfishing & Underwater Club  
Puketapu School  
Riding for the Disabled  
Royal NZ Plunket  
Special Childrens Events NZ Ltd  
Spotswood Primary School  
St John  
Tainui Search & Rescue Party  
Taranaki Cancer Society  
Taranaki Cricket  
Taranaki Dragon Boating  
Taranaki Health Foundation  
Taranaki Kart Club  
Taranaki Multiple Sclerosis

Taranaki Race Walking Club  
Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust  
Taranaki Toy Library  
Taranaki Science and Technology Fair  
Taranaki Women's Refuge  
Puanga Festival  
Te Runanga O Ngāti Mutunga  
Waitara Boating Club  
Waitara Community Arts and Crafts Centre  
Waitara Cricket Club  
Waitara Foodbank  
Waitara Golf Club  
Waitara Lawn Tennis Club  
Waitara Lions Club  
Waitara High School scholarship recipients: Lucy Parker, Jack Lilly, Abby Jordan, William Warburton, Rachel Lee and Brooke Reid  
Tertiary scholarship recipients: Andrew Hislop, Indy Platt-Byrnes and Justin Toribio



Methanex is proud to support the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust



Methanex was a sponsor of the Waitara East Cycle Track, which was completed recently



Methanex staff and families on the Waitara Foodbank Drive

SEASONS GREETINGS  
from Methanex

**We welcome your feedback.**

Please call Public Affairs Manager, Juliet Larkin, on 06 754 9700 or email us at [nzpublicaffairs@methanex.com](mailto:nzpublicaffairs@methanex.com)