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PRESS RELEASE

27 JUNE 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Business Awards entry extended, new judges and sponsor welcomed**

The Waikato Chamber of Commerce has granted an extension for would-be Business Awards entrants to submit their entries.

Events & Marketing Manager Rebecca Aston said the entry deadline is now midday, 7 July.

“To support entrants with their entry, we’re holding an additional online drop-in help session on Monday 30 June at 12.30pm. This session will be hosted by myself and Head Judge Dr Heather Connolly and will include entry writing tips as well as an overview of the process,” Rebecca said.

The Chamber also welcomes a new awards sponsor. Brand and marketing agency Bettle-Associates is the exclusive event sponsor of a new networking lounge at this year’s Business Awards.

“The sponsorship reinforces Bettle Associates’ commitment to supporting strong and meaningful business connections within the Waikato business community,” Rebecca said.

“Within the main awards space, there will be a dedicated Bettle-branded speak-easy vibe area that will provide space for people to have more personal business conversations during the event.”

This year there is also a host of new judges who the Chamber are grateful to for their support, knowledge and advice they provide in the form of feedback to entrants.

“Our new judges are Foster Group General Manager Adam Findlay, Waikato University Head of Engagement Amanda Hema, Oyonnx General Manager Felila Asiata-Feausi, Trust Waikato Chair Janise Hine-Kapetiu Eketone, Rabobank NZ Marketing Manager Joanne Rickman, Wintec’s Head of Media Arts Sam Cunnane, and we’re pleased to welcome Pam Roa back into the family of judges too. Pam is the Managing Director of Longveld and last year’s CEO of the Year winner.”

To register for the drop-in help session visit:

<https://business.waikatochamber.co.nz/events/details/2025-waikato-business-awards-drop-in-session-4-5052>

Tickets for the gala dinner are on sale now

<https://business.waikatochamber.co.nz/events/details/2025-waikato-chamber-of-commerce-business-awards-4942?calendarMonth=2025-11-01>

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