



Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ

PO Box 1604

Wellington

administrator@fmc.org.nz

15/07/2016

Dear Clubs,

Proposed Affiliation fee increase

It should need no introduction that FMC has been running a deficit of approximately \$50,000 for the past year, and current budget predictions have FMC sustaining this deficit in future years. This deficit is currently funded from FMC's reserves, and has allowed for a significant increase in the tempo and quality of FMC's operations and advocacy, at a time when public conservation land is under sustained pressure. The creation of a paid administrator position has been one of the most significant steps undertaken by FMC in recent times, and I believe members are receiving the benefits from that.

FMC and its member clubs thus face a decision – either to cut back operations to a lower level, or to invest in FMC through a \$5 per club member subscription fee increase, which will take effect in the 2017 subscription year. The FMC executive has recommended the following fee increases, to be ultimately approved at a special general meeting in November:

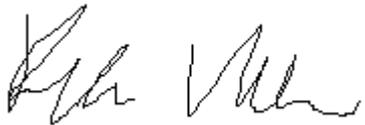
<u>Club Category</u>	<u>Current Membership Fee</u>	<u>Proposed New Fee</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Fully declared club < 500	\$10	\$15	\$5
Fully declared club > 500 < 1000	\$5	\$8	\$3
Fully declared club > 1000	\$1	\$1	\$0
Partially declared club < 500	\$12	\$17	\$5
Partially declared club > 500 < 1000	\$7	\$10	\$3
Partially declared club > 1000	\$1	\$1.50	\$0.50

FMC's fees are the lowest of any major non-governmental or environmental organisation in New Zealand, and can be sustained largely due to the elected volunteer executive. FMC also receives a significant annual grant from the Maerewhenua Trust, which assists in keeping fees at a lower level. The new fees are roughly equivalent to three cups of takeaway coffee. I also note that the last subscription fee increase was in 1996, with a roughly 38% decline in purchasing power in that time.

Still, I understand that FMC fees are a significant component of overall club subscriptions, and that clubs should discuss these with a view to sending delegates to the special general meeting in November if need be.

I am available to be contacted for discussion about the fee increase proposal at any time.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Wilson', written in a cursive style.

Peter Wilson
President.
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