



To whom it may concern,

I would like to highly recommend Kyra Barker for the 2026 Blake Inspire programme. Kyra has been an extremely valuable volunteer for the Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust (MTSCT) for the past three years and I have had the pleasure to witness Kyra's passion and dedication to environmental conservation and advocacy develop over those three years.

Whilst volunteering for MTSCT Kyra has gained leadership skills and confidence that makes her a perfect candidate for the Blake Inspire Programme. Kyra fully commits to all opportunities she pursues and takes great initiative and creativity towards new challenges. She will be able to bring her skills in science communication, conservation advocacy and critical thinking to the programme that she has honed through her time as a snorkel guide and assisting on Mountains to Sea programmes.

Kyra's dedication and commitment to MTSCT is shown through the hours she has donated year on year, with last season seeing her taking home our rangatahi award and donating almost 100 hours throughout the year.

Kyra has also shown great mentorship skills, being able to encourage other volunteers, students and community members and support their journey in the volunteering and environmental conservation space. She has great potential for growth through opportunities to meet and build relationships with rangatahi that share her passion for the environment and I believe she will make the most of this experience, allowing her to go from strength to strength and continue to pursue a pathway in environmental conservation.

Ngā mihi nui

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