

Community boards play important role – Favel

If there was any doubt about the relevance or vibrancy of New Zealand's community boards, that has been dispelled this weekend as more than 200 members gather in Methven for their biennial conference.

Yesterday the conference opened with a welcome from Ashturton Mayor Donna Favel before board members listened to a range of speakers who were both inspirational and engaging.

Community boards played an important role in local government in representing and acting as an advocate for their community interests, she said.

"It's our responsibility to do the very best we can to ensure our towns and our communities thrive, it's about what you do with the things you have to achieve maximum results by thinking outside the box, outside the square."

The conference's theme was 1 + 1 = 3, making the most of your resources.

It was the responsibility of every elected member of a local authority to do the very best they could with what they had to ensure their communities would thrive, she said.

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Ashturton Mayor Donna Favel speaking at the opening of the New Zealand Community Board's conference in Methven.

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