

Heretaunga Hastings District Council Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Industry Leader

2026 Nomination Information Pack

Presented within the Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards.

Recognising leadership, influence, and contribution across Hawke's Bay's primary sector.

Celebrate outstanding leadership - and share their impact with Hawke's Bay.

1. Overview & Purpose

The Hawke's Bay A&P Society owns and manages the Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards, which celebrate excellence, success, innovation, and growth across Hawke's Bay's rural industries. These awards have a long history of telling the story of excellence within rural Hawke's Bay and play an important role in recognising leadership, innovation, and contribution across the sector.

The Heretaunga Hastings District Council Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Industry Leader Award recognises an outstanding individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, influence, and sustained contribution within Hawke's Bay's primary industries.

The purpose of this award is to identify, acknowledge, and celebrate individuals whose leadership has shaped people, businesses, or the wider industry – driving positive change, fostering innovation, strengthening resilience, and creating long-term benefit for Hawke's Bay's primary sector. As a peer-nominated award, it highlights a nominee's reputation, service, and commitment to the region.

2. Why Nominate?

Nominating an industry leader is an opportunity to honour their influence, recognise their impact, and share their contribution with the sector.

All nominees:

- Are invited to attend the Primary Sector Awards Dinner
- Connect with farmers, growers, businesses, sponsors, and industry leaders
- Contribute to celebrating and strengthening Hawke's Bay's primary industries
- Receive an annual membership to the Hawke's Bay A&P Society
- Must consent to being nominated prior to submission

Winner receives:

- Recognition as the 2026 Hastings District Council Primary Sector Industry Leader of the Year at the Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards Dinner
- Entry into the Industry Leader alumni network of past winners
- Media exposure and promotion across the region

3. Eligibility & Nomination Conditions

The award is open to individuals who demonstrate sustained leadership, influence, and contribution to Hawke's Bay's primary industries.

Nominees must:

- Be actively working in or contributing to the Hawke's Bay region either through direct employment, governance, advisory roles, or sector involvement
- Demonstrate leadership that has significantly influenced people, businesses, or the wider industry
- Have a track record of guiding, strengthening, or transforming part of the primary sector
- Be available for an interview with the judging panel if shortlisted
- Be available for media enquiries and promotional opportunities if announced as the winner
- Consent to their information being treated as confidential.

Nominations may be submitted by colleagues, employers, or clients, with nominee consent.

4. Nomination Criteria

The Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Industry Leader will have:

- Demonstrated outstanding leadership over a sustained period within Hawke's Bay's primary industries
- Positively influenced individuals, organisations, or the wider sector
- Shown integrity, resilience, and a strong commitment to sector-good outcomes
- Built and led successful teams and inspired others to succeed
- Made a significant contribution to the growth, reputation, or innovation of Hawke's Bay's primary sector
- Demonstrated strategic thinking, long-term impact, and industry influence
- Embodied values such as determination, collaboration, continuous improvement, and initiative

5. Judging Criteria & Process

Nominations will be assessed by a panel of three: a representative of Heretaunga Hastings District Council, a representative of the Hawke's Bay A&P Society, and an independent primary sector leader.

The judging panel will consider:

- Leadership & Influence – quality, consistency, and outcomes of leadership
- Sector Contribution – long-term benefit to people, businesses, or industry direction
- Innovation & Vision – willingness to pursue new ideas, lead through change, and influence future direction
- Community Impact – contribution to Hawke's Bay and wider sector-good
- Recognition & Reputation – peer acknowledgement, credibility, and integrity

How Judging Works:

- Panel reviews all written submissions
- Shortlisted nominees may be invited to an interview with the judging panel
- Final results reflect both the written nomination and, where applicable, the interview

6. What You Need to Prepare Before Nominating

To help you prepare, the online nomination form will guide you through providing the following information about your nominee and their contribution to the primary sector:

Nominee Information	This section captures basic details about the nominee, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact details• Current role and employer• Summary of career background
Nominee Overview	A brief summary outlining the nominee's background, experience, and areas of expertise, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership experience and areas of influence• Contribution to Hawke's Bay's primary industries• Key roles held and involvement across the primary sector
Evidence of Leadership & Impact	This section captures information demonstrating the nominee's achievements, leadership, and impact, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrated leadership over time• Influence on people, organisations, or the wider industry• Strategic thinking and resilience demonstrated through leadership• Contribution to sector growth, transformation, or innovation• Community or industry-good impact• Recognition or acknowledgement from peers or industry organisations
Supporting Material	You may upload any supporting material that strengthens the nomination, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Testimonials or letters of support• Case studies or project summaries• Articles, media coverage or published interviews• Industry awards or governance involvement• Other relevant documents

All submitted material will be kept confidential unless used for agreed promotional purposes. Runner-up names will remain anonymous

7. How to Nominate

1. Complete the online nomination form
2. Upload the required files listed in "What You Need to Prepare Before Nominating" as part of your online nomination
3. Confirm that the nominee has given consent to be nominated
4. Ensure the nominee is available to attend the Awards Dinner (2 April 2026)

8. Key Dates – 2026

Nominations Open	1 October 2025
Nominations Close	28 February 2026
Judging	March 2026

9. Contact

For questions or more information, contact:

Kahlia Ritchie – Event Manager, Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards

Email: psa@hbap.co.nz Phone: 027 342 6071

10. Acknowledging Our Sponsors

With thanks to Napier Port, Heretaunga Hastings District Council, and our valued sponsors who make these awards possible.