

23 APRIL 2019

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Region's prestigious science excellence awards open for nominations**

Nominations for the region's prestigious science excellence awards are now open for 2019. This year, Kudos Awards categories include ICT and a refreshed Agricultural category; Food & Ag Science Award,

Chair of the Kudos Science Trust, Prof Ross Lawrenson believes the ICT category will provide another platform for recognising some of the region's world class IT projects and computer scientists who are doing invaluable work in the region. "We last had the ICT category in 2007 and 2008 and have brought this back due to demand, and the significant growth of this sector in the region". He says.

New categories also include Food & Ag recognising a novel tool, process, technology or scientific breakthrough that has had a positive impact in the food industry or addresses agricultural profitability, sustainability or animal health and welfare.

Nominations for 2019 will close midnight 20th June 2019. The categories reflect the work scientists are leading in the region and include; Hamilton City Council ICT, Kudos Science Trust Food & Ag Hill Laboratories Lab Technologist, Wintec Secondary Science Teacher/Educator, Waikato DHB Medical Science, Waikato Regional Council Environmental Science, Datamars Engineering Science and the University of Waikato Life Achievement award.

The Kudos Science Trust was established in 2007 to celebrate the achievements of Hamilton and Waikato's top scientists, encourage more young people into science careers, and to raise the profile of science in the Waikato. "The purpose of the Trust is to inspire our communities to recognise the value of science, and how it impacts and empowers lives, says the Trust's Project Manager, Soteria Ieremia. The Trust's work has expanded throughout the region, supporting STEM education and collaborative partnerships with industry to promote and support scientists. The Kudos Awards remain New Zealand's only regional science excellence awards.

Winners will be announced at the 2019 Kudos Awards Gala Dinner on Thursday 5th September at Claudelands Event Centre.

For more information visit: [www.thekudos.org.nz](http://www.thekudos.org.nz)

Media contact: Soteria Ieremia  
[projectmanager@thekudos.org.nz](mailto:projectmanager@thekudos.org.nz)  
0272 282 5571