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Whāia tō mātou haerenga
Follow our journey of change

THANK YOU FROM **YOUR**
MUSEUM
TOGETHER **WE** DID IT



Kia ora koutou

A few months ago, we asked you to Stand Up for Your Museum by making a submission to Christchurch City Council's draft Annual Plan in support of redevelopment funding.

You responded in your thousands. And we were heard.

Thanks to your massive outpouring of support, Christchurch city councillors this week approved a \$15 million grant and a \$28.6 million loan for redevelopment of Canterbury Museum. We are delighted and hugely grateful for this significant support.

We are also very appreciative of the ongoing support from our contributing district authorities, Waimakariri District Council, Hurunui District Council and Selwyn District Council, who continue to stand behind the Museum and its future.

This investment maintains momentum on the project and brings us a step closer to reopening a world-class museum in the heart of the city, reconnecting our communities with the collections and stories they value. It is also a strong vote of confidence in the redevelopment at a time when councils are under financial pressure.

But we could not have done it without you.

So, thank you for helping us bring Canterbury Museum home to Rolleston Avenue. We cannot wait to welcome you into the redeveloped Museum in 2029.

Ngā mihi nui
Sarah Murray
Tumuaki Tuarua | Deputy Director



Geology rocks

Searching for Museum founder's map

It was hung on the wall when Canterbury Museum first opened in 1870. But was it lost forever?

When Canterbury Museum first opened on 30 September 1870, a map created by Museum founder Sir Julius von Haast was displayed high on the wall.

It was a map of Canterbury and Westland forged from Haast's many years travelling across the South Island as the Provincial Geologist of Canterbury from 1861 to 1868. Its many hard-won details of New Zealand's geology and geography were gained by trekking the country, collecting rocks, and painstakingly surveying the landscape. Published in 1868, it was one of many maps Haast helped create and a testament to his passion for geology and geography.

But as the Museum developed, the map was eventually removed from display sometime around the turn of the twentieth century. The map disappeared into the Museum's collection and was not sighted for many decades until a researcher's question set off a quest to find it.

[Read more →](#)



Going extinct

Last chance for dinos

You have just over 2 weeks left to see our blockbuster dino exhibition.

Dinosaurs: Surviving Extinction, which closes on 14 June, stars life-size replica skeletons of fearsome and colourful creatures, including a relative of the mighty *Tyrannosaurus Rex*.

Enjoy a brush with prehistoric giants and an eye-popping insight into the legacy of dinosaurs.

[Read more →](#)



Millions of stories

Choose your own Museum adventure

Take an interactive trip through some of the 2.3 million objects Canterbury Museum holds for the community.

Canterbury Museum Associate Curator Natural History, Johnno Ridden, takes you on a journey through the fascinating connections between treasures in the collection. They tell fascinating stories about people, Canterbury and the world.

A Friends of the Canterbury Museum talk.

[Watch video →](#)

Coming soon

Tails from the Coasts

Discover a fascinating world of moonrats that smell of rotten onions, fish that can climb trees and the world's only venomous monkey.

Tails From The Coasts, a new exhibition opening at the Canterbury Museum Pop-Up on 26 June, offers an insight into Singapore's diverse and intriguing wildlife through a priceless collection of historic watercolours.

The exhibition also features an immersive digital experience where creatures from the watercolours are brought to life through animation and move through Singapore's lush tropical forests.



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 **Canterbury
Museum**



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