



## **PLOWMAN MEDAL AWARDED TO NEXT CHAMPION, FRANK JANSSEN**

**MAY 2018**



Frank Janssen is a straight talker - an experienced businessman and a man who believes in giving back.

For the past four years he has worked alongside some of NEXT's educational initiatives as a critical thinker - in the Manaiakalani project addressing inequality in low income communities - and at The Mind Lab - helping teachers upskill in digital literacy – both with an end game of turning that new knowledge into better achievement for thousands of school children. He has also been integrally involved with many of NEXT's other educational initiatives.

NEXT has awarded Frank Janssen their Plowman Medal for services to NEXT, to philanthropy, and to Neal and Annette Plowman.

NEXT CEO Bill Kermode said he was delighted to present Frank with the medal - the fourth to be awarded since NEXT's inception four years ago.

“Frank offered to help NEXT pro bono right from its beginning, and his expertise and passion for delivering impact have been invaluable in our education initiatives. He has been heavily involved in many of our investment processes – with a particular focus on measurement, evaluation and impact.”

“Frank tells it how it is – stemming from his passion for getting the best possible outcome - and bang for buck - in whatever NEXT does. We are delighted to acknowledge him as one of NEXT's true champions with this wonderful award. It has great significance for us because Neal and Annette have allowed their name to be used in it.”

As well as NEXT, Frank has generously given his time and expertise to other “for purpose” organisations including Momentum Waikato, the Edmund Hillary Fellowship, and some other private families.

The previous recipients of the Plowman Medal have been NEXT Advisory Panel members Devon McLean (environment), Margaret Bendall (education), and current Chairman Barrie Brown.

### **For further information contact**

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### **About NEXT Foundation**

NEXT is a strategic philanthropic foundation launched four years ago. NEXT is investing \$100 million over 10 years to build a legacy of environmental and educational excellence for the benefit of future generations of New Zealanders.

For more information: <http://www.nextfoundation.org.nz/>