

## MCGUINNESS INSTITUTE MEDIA RELEASE – 26 FEBRUARY 2016

### *Nation Voices Essay Competition - Results announced*

The McGuinness Institute is delighted to announce the winners of the *Nation Voices* essay competition. The topic for the essay competition was: What makes a good prime minister of New Zealand? The essays were to focus particularly on the character, personality and skills that make for a good prime minister of New Zealand.

The winning essay was written by Martin Holmes. As the author of the winning essay, Martin will receive a \$500 cash prize, have his essay published in the upcoming book titled *Nation Voices* and receive an all-expenses paid trip to Wellington to attend the book launch.

Second equal runners-up were Brad Olsen and Paul Winter. They will each receive a \$200 cash prize.

The essays were judged by Dame Dr Claudia Orange – author and Head of Research at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa; Dr Bernard Cadogan – author, Oxford educated policy consultant, political philosopher, historian and poet; and Wendy McGuinness – author and Chief Executive of the McGuinness Institute.

The three essays (unedited) are published on our [Nation Voices website](#).

Thank you to all of the entrants for their hard work; the standard was high and the essays were a pleasure to read. We look forward to sharing them with the public.

#### **More about *Nation Voices***

*Nation Voices* is a McGuinness Institute project that aims to explore what makes a good prime minister of New Zealand. One of the outputs of the project will be a book that will use the lens of character and oratory to examine our nation's 40 premiers and prime ministers. This book, which will be published late 2016, will be a companion to [Nation Dates: Significant dates that have shaped the nation of New Zealand](#) (our signature book). For more details see [www.nationvoicesnz.org](http://www.nationvoicesnz.org).

#### **About the McGuinness Institute**

The McGuinness Institute is a non-partisan think tank working towards a sustainable future, contributing strategic foresight through evidence-based research and policy analysis. We endeavour to undertake research that is independent, innovative and relevant in an educational, professional and ethical manner.

#### **Links of interest:**

Nation Voices website: [www.nationvoicesnz.org](http://www.nationvoicesnz.org)

McGuinness Institute website: [www.mcguinnessinstitute.org](http://www.mcguinnessinstitute.org)

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