



Media Release

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New Zealand's Olympic flag envoy named

13-year-old aspiring actress lost for words as prize is announced in school assembly

"My jaw was on the floor. I was totally lost for words. I still don't know what to say."

That was Year 9 Rangitoto College Student Tayla Young's reaction to the special announcement at school assembly this morning.

"One minute I was sitting there listening to Hamish Carter talk about winning an Olympic Gold and the next minute I was up on the stage with him," said the aspiring actress, model and sports-mad teenager.

As the winner of the ANZ Flag Envoy competition, Tayla will carry the New Zealand team flag to London and present it to the New Zealand team flag bearer at a dinner hosted by Governor-General of New Zealand, Lieutenant General The Right Honourable Sir Jerry Mateparae, on 26 July.

She will be presented the flag by the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC) Secretary General Kereyn Smith at a ceremony in Wellington tomorrow morning. In three weeks, Tayla, along with three family members, will be flown to London and the Olympic Games for seven days.

"I'm going to take my Mum and my Nana and Poppa. None of us have been to further than Australia. It's so exciting," she said.

Tayla's name was drawn from more than 16,000 entries around New Zealand. Customers from any of ANZ's businesses in New Zealand, including The National Bank, UDC, Direct Broking, OnePath, EFTPOS and Bonus Bonds, could nominate a child aged between eight and 16 years of age.

ANZ is the official insurance partner of the New Zealand team for the London Olympics, and is sponsoring the NZOC for the next three-years. It is also individually sponsoring rowers Hamish Bond, Eric Murray and Emma Twigg and cyclist Natasha Hanson, and Olympic gold medal winners Sarah Ulmer and Hamish Carter.

"We're so proud to be supporting the NZOC and all of the amazing athletes competing for New Zealand," said Kerri Thompson, Managing Director of Retail for ANZ.

"The Olympics isn't just about the athletes though - it's about the whole country getting in behind them, cheering them on. And we're happy to be doing our bit to support this."

ANZ New Zealand is the country's largest financial institution and one of the nation's largest companies. Its brands include ANZ Bank, National Bank, UDC Finance, OnePath, EFTPOS Bonus Bonds, and Direct Broking. Around one in two New Zealanders has a financial relationship with ANZ New Zealand.

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