

18 April 2008

Submission to Christchurch City Council Draft Annual Plan

From Volunteering Canterbury

Volunteering Canterbury is an Incorporated Charitable Trust which has been operating since September 1988. The purpose of Volunteering Canterbury is to promote, support, and uphold the integrity of voluntary work with commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Volunteering Canterbury supports all volunteering — in whanau/hapu/iwi, in the voluntary (third) sector, the government (public) sector (local, regional and central), the commercial (private) sector, and the household sector. This support is essential in upholding the integrity of voluntary work done informally as well as formally.

In association with the Council of Social Services we draw your attention to the major contribution of the voluntary sector – in social services and health as well as in sport and recreation, the environment, education and information, arts, heritage, tourism, and emergency services. With its skills, expert knowledge, diversity, and grassroots perspective, this sector is a key partner for Council, not only in identifying but also in achieving desired Community Outcomes.

Therefore there is a need to at least maintain and preferably increase investment in the voluntary sector. We are concerned at the apparent reduction of community grants (p.29) by some \$1.3 million, and seek an assurance that community grants are being maintained at the levels indicated in the LTCCP.

We do not wish to speak on behalf of this submission.

Ruth Gardner

Manager

Mgr/Data/Ruth/CCC Submission April 2008