

For immediate release

6 April 2010

ROTORUA TRUST INCREASES OPERATING COST DONATIONS

Ninety local charitable groups and organisations will benefit from Rotorua Trust operating cost grants this year.

Trust Chairman, Grahame Hall said the Trust will make more than \$300,000 available each year for the next three years.

“This is an increase of almost six per cent on the last round in 2007.”

Every three years the Trust makes a limited amount of funding available to assist local charitable organisations meet their annual operating costs.

Mr Hall said grants for operating costs are becoming more difficult for organisations to obtain because very few funders make them available.

“As far as we know, we are the only Trust in New Zealand making donations for ongoing operating costs, in this case for three years.”

“Organisations continue to tell us that it takes a lot of pressure off because they know they have got the funding each year for the next three years.”

“It also means they don’t have to apply every year,” he said.

Mr Hall said the Trust receives applications from a variety of groups and organisations, both large and small.

“We received applications from organisations working in the art and culture, community, youth, older person and education areas.”

“Trustees were also pleased to get applications from 13 groups that had never applied before.”

Mr Hall said only groups that have been operating for two years as a legal entity qualify.

“They must be able to demonstrate the ability to improve and benefit the Rotorua District community and are expected to have a reasonable level of self-sufficiency.”

Schools are not eligible for the grants.

The Trust's next funding round for operating costs will open in December 2012 and successful organisations will be notified early the following year.

Any applications made between now and that time will be referred to the next round.

Ends

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