

6. NEW ZEALAND RECREATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Councillors Condon, Buist and Harrow, the Council's delegates to the above conference, reported to the Committee, outlining the highlights of the conference and confirming the value of elected member attendance at such conferences.

The Chairman advised that the Leisure Unit's book "Walk Christchurch: Short Walks that Explore your City" had won the 1999 Recreation Association Award for outstanding project with a budget over \$40,000. The NZRA Awards are offered to recognise and reward innovation and excellence in the provision of recreation or leisure programmes/projects in New Zealand. This is the first time Christchurch City Council Leisure has won the award and the first time in many years such an award has gone to the South Island.

The Committee **decided** to place on record its warm congratulations to the authors, Lesley Symington and Karen Theobald on winning this award.

The Council's delegates to the conference also advised that interest had been shown by a number of delegates in holding a future conference in Christchurch. In light of this the Committee **decided** to request staff to bring a preliminary report to the Committee on the feasibility of the Council hosting either the 2001 or 2002 New Zealand Recreation Association Conference.