

17. CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION DAY

In February 2000 the Rewi Alley Chinese School successfully ran the Chinese Cultural Festival. According to the News Advertiser "the event was a blaze of colour and sound with lion and dragon dances, drums and cymbals". Also included were food stalls with traditional Chinese food. Overall this was a highly successful event and was attended by 1000 staff, pupils and parents from Wharenui School as well as members of the wider community.

This year the Rewi Alley Chinese School wishes to co-organise a Chinese New Year Celebration Event which will be held at the Aurora Centre for the Performing Arts at Burnside High School on 17 February. The event will provide cultural and recreational opportunities to the local Asian Chinese community, especially Asian young people

Total cost of the event was costed out to	3,475 + GST
Contribution from Chinese School, local business and other funders	1,500 + GST
Amount requested from the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board	1,975 + GST

One of the nine priorities listed in the Christchurch City Council Social Wellbeing Policy is "To respect cultural diversity". Christchurch has a growing Asian population, which is highly represented particularly in the Riccarton Ward.

The Board has supported the Rewi Alley Chinese School on previous occasions and has highly valued the school contribution to Chinese families and particularly youth..

The Community Board **resolved** to contribute \$1,975 (+ GST) from Community Initiatives Project Funds (\$34,000) towards the Chinese New Year Cultural Event to be held on 17 February 2002.

The Board also **decided** to seek some funds from the Fendalton / Waimairi Community Board. The high cost of hiring the facility was discussed and it was agreed that the Board would seek some clarification on the costs, as they were seen as a deterrent to community groups.