8. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services
Unit Manager responsible:	Lesley Symington, Community and Recreation Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to an application for funding from its 2005/06 Youth Development Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2. Funding is being sought by Ben Harris, a 15 year old student from Huntsbury. Ben has been selected as a member of the Secondary Schools New Zealand Under 15 soccer team. This team is travelling to Canada in September/October 2005.
- 3. This application was received within the necessary timeframe, but unfortunately, due to a review of the Youth Development Fund process and staff changes within the Council, this report is now seeking retrospective funding for this application.
- 4. This team is a national side that has been selected after a series of regional trials. The players selected are already high achievers in football and it is hoped that this experience will enable them to continue to develop their skills to an even higher level.
- 5. Ben will be a member of a touring team consisting of 16 players and four officials.
- 6. He has submitted applications to the Lion Foundation, Southern Trust, and New Zealand Community Trust but has unfortunately been declined by all three.
- 7. Ben is seeking funds to assist with covering the cost of airfares for the trip and this is the first time the applicant has approached the Community Board for financial assistance.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8. There are no legal issues to be considered.
- 9. The total cost to each player is \$4,000 which includes \$2,456 for airfares. The applicant is seeking funding to meet the airfares cost.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board agree to allocate \$500 from its 2005/06 Youth Development Fund to assist with costs associated with the applicant's travel to Canada for the Secondary Schools New Zealand Under 15 soccer team.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be supported.