

2. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SCHEME – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services
Officer 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 Olivia Robin, a 16 year old girl who lives in the Ilam area, towards costs associated with representing New Zealand at the World Irish Dancing Championships being held in Belfast, Ireland from 31 March-29 April 2006.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

3. There are no legal issues to be considered. The following outlines budgetary requirements for 2006:

Activity/Competition	Date	Cost
Air fare (incl taxes)	March 2006	\$2,800
Accommodation	March 2006	\$1,500
Insurance 30 days	March 2006	\$ 284
Bus Belfast – Derry return twice	March 2006	\$ 100
Entry Fees World Championships	March 2006	\$ 150
Entry fees Derry Feis	March 2006	\$ 100
Food & Incidentals	March 2006	\$ 800
Total Cost		\$5,734

4. Olivia has currently raised \$2,000 through her individual fundraising efforts. This has involved busking, selling chocolates, sausage sizzles and saving money from her part time job. Olivia is unable to apply to most trusts for funding because as an individual she does not meet their criteria.

BACKGROUND ON THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUNDING REQUEST

5. Olivia has been dancing since she was eight years old. She first represented New Zealand when she was 14 years old at the 2003 Australasian Championships. In 2004 Olivia attended the World Championships and was placed 81st in her age group. Olivia is currently ranked first in New Zealand for 16 year olds. Olivia is hoping to place this year in the top 50 competitors.
6. Olivia's main goal for attending the World Championships is to further develop her dance knowledge. Olivia is currently a voluntary teaching assistant, teaching on average twice a week. Olivia teaches up to five girls at a time, focussing on new steps and choreography. The World Championships will not only enhance and develop her dancing ability, but also benefit the children she helps to teach each week. Olivia's ultimate goal is to attend a dance school in Ireland and join a dance troupe.
7. These are the 36th World Championships and are being hosted by the An Coimisiun Lay Irnci Gaelacha (Irish Dancing Commission). To date, the following countries have indicated they will be attending: Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Continental Europe.
8. Olivia received \$400 from the Board's Youth Development Scheme in February 2004. The money was used towards the costs of attending the World Championships 2004.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board allocates \$300 from its 2005/06 Youth Development Fund to assist with costs associated with the applicant travelling to Ireland to represent New Zealand in Irish dancing at the World Championships being held in Belfast from 31 March-29 April 2006.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.