

#### 4. APPLICATION FOR FUNDING – YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager, Community Services, DDI: 941-8534
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Catherine McDonald, Acting Community Support Unit Manager
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##### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for an application for \$500 funding from its 2005/06 Discretionary fund. This application would have gone to the Youth Development Fund but the total amount of this fund has been allocated for this year.

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Funding is being sought by the Riccarton High School Drama Department on behalf of members of a group of students from there who recently won a regional acting competition performing a section of Shakespeare’s Henry V. As a result of this they are entitled to perform at the national Sheila Winn competition in early June in Wellington, and are seeking assistance from the Board regarding associated transport and accommodation costs.

##### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

Activity/Competition	Date	Cost
Transport costs \$231 x 10 (8 students , 2 teachers)	June 2006	\$2,310
Accommodation costs \$29.60 for 3 nights x 10	June 2006	\$ 888
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$3,198</b>

4. The students have been fundraising for this activity by holding theatre sports events and are also considering holding movie evenings. The school has allocated \$500 towards this activity from within the Arts Department budgets and \$450 from a fund held by the Principal. Without considering the still unknown amount that will be able to be raised through fundraising, this leaves \$2,248 that this group is seeking from the Community Board.
5. While this money is being sought from the Youth Development Scheme, this fund has already been allocated for the 2005/06 financial year. Consequently it is proposed that the funding be sourced from the Board’s discretionary fund.

##### BACKGROUND ON THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING - YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

6. The students applying for funding have been involved in drama in the school for between three and five years. The student who is directing the performance (Emma Cusdin) is also the school’s theatre sports instructor, is a member and regular performer with the Young Shakespeare Company, is the Court Theatre ambassador to the school, and has also been involved in plays at her church. She is interested in becoming a drama teacher and will pursue this through university training. Her current skills mean that employment in theatre sports or community theatre is a possibility. Another member of the group (Eli Matthewson) has played lead roles with the Young Shakespeare Theatre Company and he intends to continue being active with this company. Similarly, another of the group members, Will Alexander had a lead role in the school’s musical last year. He is being mentored by a leading Christchurch drama tutor and will likely continue on to drama school, and may consider acting as a profession.
7. The lateness of this application is due to the group not knowing they would win the regional competition and therefore be eligible to compete in the national competition. It was the first time they had competed in the regional competition, and they had not expected to win.

8. The students anticipate bringing the experience they gain from participating in this event back to the school and the wider community. It is anticipated that involvement in such a competition, particularly if they are successful, will promote the arts in Riccarton and draw positive attention to Riccarton in the arts scene nationally.
9. This is the first time this group has applied to this fund.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board agrees to allocate \$500 from its 2005/06 Discretionary fund to assist with travel and accommodation costs associated with the applicant's travelling to Wellington for the Sheila Winn National Drama Competition.