Our Community Plan Christchurch O-Tautahi 2004/14 SUBMISSION

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Submissions close on 6 May 2004	
I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings.	
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Your Submission:	Kia ora
	We are an institute that supports schools, playcentres, and people in the tertiary sector to provide children and adults with real choice in developing their interests and skills. We give people an understanding that within a democratic culture they do have a voice, impact and responsibility.
	We empower education providers and businesses (using internationally proven mentors, models, and tools) to incorporate into their philosophy a respect for Human Rights, often using the tools of pluralistic learning, healthy relationships of trust and respect between people of all ages and backgrounds, and democratic processes.
	Many of your goals in the community plan are goals shared by the members of our institute. We believe that to truly meet your goals of lifelong learning (p25), community involvement (p26), a safe city (p27), and true democratic processes (p26) a reciprocal relationship with our Institute will ensure your outcomes are achieved. We bring a strong research, experience, action, review, consultation, network base.
	Our institute (and our focus on democratic education) allows people to work towards their potential, resulting in less need for agression, allows people to recognise their own uniqueness and that of others, provides a basis for interaction based on respect and tolerance, generates spontaneous teamwork, builds strong learning communities, and provides the potential for moving our society from one that has democratic principles to one that IS a democratic culture.
	We look forward to presenting our submission at a hearing in June.

Thank you for this opportunity.