

Christchurch O-Tautahi Community Plan 2006 Draft Summary Response



Tena Koutou
Nga Mihi Mahana Ki a Koutou

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Otautahi Branch of the Maori Women's Welfare League to express concern over the proposed "rationalization" of the Redwood, Bishopdale, Spreydon and Mobile Library services (p8).

We strongly believe that the cessation of these services will have substantial and sustained adverse impacts on a number of community groups and in particular those most vulnerable.

Our mandate at Maori Women's Welfare League has always been determined by the community we serve and we see daily the benefits of these services to the community in general; and our kaumatua/elders, rakatahi/youth and mokopuna/babies in particular. We are continually promoting libraries to our whanau as a cost-effective way of increasing knowledge, their own, and their children's. We acknowledge how integral accessibility is to the use of any community resource and that additional barriers continuously identified are cost and lack of transport which we feel would be compounded by your proposal.

Our assumption is that a library is more than just a building that houses books but also a pinnacle place of congregation that engenders a sense of community, of belonging. We contend that the closure of these services contradicts the Community Outcome outlined on page 7 of your draft summary to "Increase Lifelong Learning and Knowledge". We concur that "learning opportunities help us to participate in the community and the economy" but disagree with this action as an effective way of achieving this end.

We trust that our aspirations for Christchurch/Otautahi and yours are not so divergent.

We look forward to presenting our submission at a hearing.

Naku noa
Na Amber Clarke

Otautahi Maori Women's Welfare League

From: amber clarke [whaea.midwife@yahoo.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 5 May 2006 15:05
To: CCC Plan
Cc: whaea.midwife@yahoo.com.au
Subject: Otautahi Maori Women's Welfare League - HEARD - Submission

Tena Koe

Please find our submission re: the 2006 community plan draft summary plan.

Naku noa

na Amber Clarke

on behalf Otautahi Maori Women's Welfare League

co: 89 Bowhill Road
Otautahi/Christchurch
ph. 03 3828018

On Yahoo!7

360°: Your own space to share what you want with who you want!