

**SUBMISSIONS ON THE DRAFT OUR COMMUNITY PLAN,  
CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL**

I wish to talk to the main points in my submission at the hearings to be held between Thursday 25 May and Wednesday 7 June 2006.

I am completing this submission on behalf of the Canterbury Gymnastic Association Inc

This organisation represents 1550 members and 14260 school participants (based on 2005 figures)

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The submission includes a reference to the Aquatic Facilities proposal



4/5/06



**Canterbury Gymnastics**

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4<sup>th</sup> May 2006

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To whom it may concern

Canterbury Gymnastic Association (CGA) would like to acknowledge the role that the council has played in supporting the development of the sport of gymnastics. We note however that the Council's long-term plan does not at present include any provision for more medium sized facilities to meet the future needs of gymnastics and other sports. Whilst we understand that a facilities strategy is to be developed later in the year we would like to bring the Councils attention to the urgent need for another sports stadium within the city.

Gymnastics is recognised by SPARC as one of the foundation sports and the potential for development and increased participation is currently limited by access to appropriate facilities. A new facility would contribute to SPARC's vision of "More People, More Active, More Often". The current strategic plan of the New Zealand Gymnastic Association includes the goal of increased numbers at a recreational or participation level and CGA is keen to develop the sport in the same way. The future of Gymnastics is not just about high performance or competition but very much focussed towards providing quality programmes in all codes for more people at all levels of the sport.

In 2004/5 CGA, with the assistance of the Council, commissioned a report to identify the needs of the sport in terms of facilities currently available and projected future growth. The conclusion of the report was that, in the medium term, there would be a need to "develop a facility on the Western side of the city to replace the ImpactAlpha facility. The facility would preferably be co-located with a large indoor court sports facility that can be used in conjunction with the dedicated gymnastic centre to host regional, south island and possibly National events." A larger facility would allow for the amalgamation of other clubs and Canterbury Gymnastic Association is in need of a centre with guaranteed access for holding competitions.

We understand that netball, basketball and volleyball require increased access to indoor courts and we support the development of any facility for that purpose with the option to co-locate a new gymnastics centre at the same site, whether in the West or other area of the City. This would offer the increased advantage of cost effectiveness through shared administration and the benefits of a facility that could be used during the day for schools programmes as well as use after school and at weekends. We note that the Aquatic Facilities strategy developed by the Council also refers to the possible co-location of other sports where there is evidence of some community benefit.

The development of such a facility would accord with the community directions and strategic outcomes of the Council as stated in their long-term regional plan. In particular, it would help to create “ A City of Recreation, Fun and Creativity”, “A Safe City” and “A Healthy City”.

We look forward to the opportunity to speak to this submission in more detail.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Isabel Goodhew', written in black ink.

Isabel Goodhew