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Corporate Plan Output: Recovered Materials Foundation	

The purpose of this report is to provide a brief summary of the last year's activities for the RMF and information on our upcoming conference. The RMF will present and display information on these achievements at the City Services Committee meeting.

#### **SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 1998/99 FY**

In its first full year of processing materials recovered through kerbside recycling, the RMF:

- processed 11,624 tonnes of material recovered through kerbside recycling. The RMF has requested the Waste Management Unit and Onyx to investigate increasing to 15,000 tonnes in 1999/2000 through successfully developing markets and processes to handle additional materials from the waste stream.
- facilitated the establishment of nine viable ongoing operations/business opportunities for the use of recovered materials in Christchurch.
- returned a surplus of \$50,000 for the operation of the three Resource Recovery Centres at the refuse stations (split 50/50, CCC/RMF).
- even with the Asian market crash, the RMF returned a surplus with newspaper recycling, which was previously subsidised by the Christchurch City Council to the tune of \$200,000 pa.
- is the New Zealand representative for recycling and market development in the Australasian Market Development Network (AMDN), comprising government, packaging industry and market development organisations in Australia.
- has 558 companies on its database participating in waste exchange. Has found 239 successful uses for materials from companies that would have otherwise been landfilled.
- is now returning \$30/tonne for additional glass cullet exported to ACI, whereas this used to run at a net loss of \$45/tonne prior to the establishment of the RMF.
- resulted in \$718,500 from sales of recovered materials, producing a small surplus in its first year of operation.
- has three joint venture developments underway with commercial paper recycling operators in New Zealand and in Australia.
- is setting up an international conference and exhibition to further policy development and commercial interest in recovered materials and sustainable development.

- created 14 new jobs directly within the RMF, and 30 in association with recycling development.
- assisted in maintaining the viability of four existing private recycling businesses (collectively employing 24 people in Christchurch) during a downturn in recycling markets. All businesses are now on a sound footing.

Attached to this report is an information sheet we have produced to show the Christchurch public what is happening to their kerbside resources.

#### **RMF CONFERENCE**

The RMF is planning an international conference and exhibition to further policy development and commercial interest in recovered materials and sustainable development. The conference is planned for 11, 12 and 14 June 2000 and will have a number of prominent international speakers including Paul Hawken. The conference will be called “Redesigning Resources” and will use the Christchurch Convention Centre. The exhibition will be a national award in Recovered Materials Sculpture. One of the main objectives of the conference is to facilitate the debate on national policy related to promoting the recovered material industry and more sustainable development activities.

#### **Chairman’s**

#### **Recommendation:**

1. That the information be received.
2. That the Christchurch City Council underwrite the RMF conference to the value of \$50,000 subject to the conference budget being approved by the Director of Finance.
3. That all Councillors receive a copy of the RMF Annual Report which is due out shortly.