

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Bruce Meder, Community Development Adviser
Corporate Plan Output: Community Activities	

The purpose of this report is to update Board members on the Asian Youth follow-up and the North/West Youth Strategy.

ASIAN YOUTH

Board members will recall that a research project looking at the concerns and issues of Asian secondary school students was undertaken with funding from the Shirley/Papanui, Fendalton/Waimairi and Riccarton/Wigram Community Boards. The report “Voices of Asian Youth” was presented to the three Boards early this year. Since then a working party comprised of representatives from each of the Boards, high schools, ESOL teachers, Asian communities, staff and other interested parties has been established.

The first issues tackled by this working party have been:

- The production of an orientation booklet for Asian students new to the city.
- Liaison with the Department of Immigration with a view towards making Asian students’ contact with this department less daunting.
- The establishment of an International Youth Club which has already set in place a number of activities for young people.

It is encouraging to note that the networks established through the process of the research have been maintained and expanded and that this has led to some useful activities being organised to ease the life of Asian students in this city.

Recently, the network of youth workers that organised that summit have been meeting with young people (primarily from Papanui High School and St Bedes College) to look at ways of implementing some of the findings of the summit. This group has decided to initially focus on three areas:

- Entertainment and Events.
- Sport and Recreation.
- The Malls, including the possibility of a Youth Advisory Committee for Northlands Mall.

It is encouraging to note the enthusiasm and energy that young people are bringing to these projects.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson’s Recommendation: That the information be received.