

8. NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST CHILDREN'S DAY

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Barbara Lindsay, Community Secretary
Corporate Plan Output: 4.1.text.19	

The purpose of this report is to introduce Children's Day, that is to be held on 29 October 2000.

In a clause in the July agenda for the Community Services Committee it was advised:

*“Social Services and Employment Minister Steve Maharey announced that New Zealand will have its own Children's Day on **Sunday 29 October** this year. Children's Day 2000 is a joint initiative between government and community agencies. Primary agencies involved with the day are Child, Youth and Family, Barnardos and the Office of the Commissioner of Children. The day, chosen to occur on the last Sunday each October, will hopefully become an annual event where all communities in New Zealand are encouraged to have special activities where adults spend time with children.*

Spending time with children is the major theme of Children's Day. There are four other key messages:

- *love and affection;*
- *praise and encouragement;*
- *listening and talking; and*
- *new experiences*

Children's Day has its own web site, www.childrenday.org.nz, and will distribute a Children's Day kit to community groups in August with suggestions and ideas about what to do with children on 29 October.”

Board members will note that this day falls within Neighbourhood Week, 28 October – 3 November 2000.

The Board is being invited to consider any particular project to mark the occasion.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That consideration be given to a project to mark Children's Day on 29 October 2000.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted and that a family entertainment day be held at the Groyne on Children's Day, free buses to be run from the Shirley/Papanui area (tickets to be made available through local schools).