

5. FESTIVALS AND EVENTS FUNDING DECISIONS

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The purpose of this report is to seek approval for festivals and events funding recommendations for:

- The allocation of funds from the Festival Innovation fund to the Montana Winter Adventure Festival and TORU Pacific Arts 2003.
- Declining the request for innovation funding for The Festival of Flowers proposal 'The Love Walk'.
- The allocation of funding to the Arts Festival for a commissioned project 'Pacific Stilt Project'.
- The allocation of core funding for 2002/03 to the Waitaha and Primary Schools Cultural Festivals.

1. Introduction

In the funding recommendations approved by the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee in February 2002 a sum of \$20,000 was identified for festival innovations and \$31,827 for cultural festivals within the Contracted Events Output.

The Innovation Fund

Innovation fund proposals were invited from all core funded festivals under the following conditions:

- This innovation fund of \$20,000 for 2002/03 is available to and contestable by all currently core funded festivals for the purpose of creating new and innovative festival components. It is envisaged that the fund will allow festivals to consider options which may be considered too risky to undertake within the usual course of festival operations.
- As the fund is small it is envisaged that only one or two festivals will receive innovation funding in this financial year. To be eligible for consideration the concept will need to meet the following criteria:
 - Be a completely new concept to the festival,
 - Be different from any other festival components currently offered in Christchurch & Canterbury,
 - Be truly innovative and imaginative,
 - Add significant value to the festival,
 - Be of a very high standard.
- Any innovation fund allocation will be a one off payment which will enable the establishment and development of the innovation and will be paid under the condition that there will be no recourse to subsequent payments to sustain the innovation. Therefore the innovation must be sustainable in future years without further Council funding.
- Proposals are to include:
 - A description of the innovation,
 - The costs and revenues of the innovation,
 - How the innovation will be sustainable without further Council funding in subsequent Years,
 - How the innovation fits the festivals unique direction,
 - How the innovation contributes to the outcomes the Subcommittee has identified for funding the festival.

Four innovation fund proposals were received and are detailed below.

1. **Montana Winter Adventure Festival**

The merged Christchurch Montana Winter Carnival and Adventure Festival Trust submitted a proposal for the innovation fund which included a request for a seeding fund towards the cost of a feasibility study for revenue, research, proposals and fundraising for an artificial ice rink. Once in Christchurch it was proposed that the rink would be an asset that can be reused each year and hired out. The rink is made of superice polyolefin flooring with slide elements intended for use in ice-skating.

A request was also made for \$2,000 for the seeding of the Adventure Day Out (or weekend) in the new festival in 2003. The adventure day or weekend is about seeing and trying new and exciting adventures. The venue would possibly be Wigram Airfield or the Showgrounds where adventure pursuits would be showcased. The aim is to display some of the more extreme pursuits; skydiving, paraponting, motorbike racing and high wire acts.

2. **TORU Pacific Arts Festival**

The Innovation Fund proposal received from Pacific Underground is for an international showcase component to be established in the festival. In 2003 the international showcase would be – Te Vaka – a performance of pacific world/fusion music. The request is for \$10,500 from the Innovation Fund.

3. **The Festival of Flowers**

The festival submitted a proposal for 'The Love Walk' concept and requested Innovation Fund funding of \$19,500.

4. **Christchurch Arts Festival**

A proposal for two commissioned projects was received from the Christchurch Arts Festival. Of the two commissioned projects the 'Pacific Stilt Project' was seen as being appropriate to receive Council Core Funding. Although the proposal did not meet the sustainability criteria of the Innovation Fund it was felt that the project would add significant value to the festival and should be allocated an additional \$20,000 from elsewhere in the Core Funding budget for this purpose. The payment would be a one off payment for the 2002/03 financial year.

The Pacific Stilt Project is a melding of circo arts (ie stilt walking) with hip hop/breakdancing around the exploration of pacific cultural traditions creating a work that has broad community and international appeal. The performance would make use of indoor spaces such as shopping malls for its community focussed work. The work would have the potential to be onsold to other arts organisations.

5. **Core Funding 2002/03 Existing Cultural Festivals**

Discussions are being held between the Festival and Events Subcommittee and the Multi Cultural City Subcommittee regarding the future funding of cultural festivals. The results of these discussions are likely to take effect from 2003/04. In the meantime, the Waitaha Cultural Festival and the Primary Schools Cultural Festival require certainty of funding to allow for the preparation of their next events.

Subcommittee

Recommendation:

1. That funding of \$7,000 be allocated to the Montana Winter Adventure Festival 2003 from the Innovation Fund. This recommendation is subject to the status of a separate proposal to develop an ice rink in Cathedral Square being investigated.
2. That funding of \$10,500 be allocated to TORU Pacific Arts 2003 from the Innovation Fund.
3. That the Festival of Flowers application for funding be declined.
4. That funding of \$20,000 be allocated to the Christchurch Arts Festival for the commissioned 'Pacific Stilt Project' from currently unallocated funding.

- 5.1 That funding of \$10,000 be allocated to the Waitaha Cultural Festival from the Core Funding Budget.
- 5.2 That funding of \$10,000 be allocated to the Primary Schools Cultural Festival from the Core Funding Budget.

**Chairman's
Recommendation:**

For discussion.