

6. COMMUNITY FUNDING

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The purpose of this report is to seek a grant allocation decision by the Community and Leisure Committee on a joint community funding request from ARTCO Christchurch and Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu Trust Wellington for the staging of the musical *Once Were Warriors* and the launching of a Violence Free Christchurch Campaign.

Funding budgets put forward have included:

- contribution to the musical's pre-production costs of \$600,000
- purchase of sponsor packages ranging between \$10,000 and \$100,000
- "Make Christchurch Violence Free" Campaign costs including:
 - \$28,000 for household flier costs
 - \$5,080 for promotional poster costs
 - \$12,000 for four Community Anti-Violence Hui
 - \$7,200 to sponsor a young person in to the musical

BACKGROUND

ARTCO Christchurch entered into an agreement with Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu Trust Wellington to create *Once Were Warriors* as a musical drama under the directorship of Jim Moriarty. The aim of these two companies, through this production of *Once Were Warriors*, is to create training and employment opportunities for Maori and raise awareness throughout the country of domestic violence, family dysfunction, youth suicide, sexual and substance abuse. The companies will also be promoting a campaign for a "Violence Free Aotearoa/New Zealand" and plan to work with local community organisations to help promote local violence free cities and towns, for example "Make Christchurch Violence Free". Alongside this production and campaign will be a petition aimed at repealing Section 71 of the Criminal Justice Act 1985 that allows the use of reasonable force against children. The production has two seasons in Christchurch as part of an Aotearoa New Zealand tour with the opening night of the musical drama in Christchurch on 2 March 2004. The Mayor has also been approached inviting him to be one of the speakers at the musical's opening night and to launch the Violence Free Campaign following the opening show. He is also being invited to write a "violence free Christchurch" statement that would be included in the musical's promotion and any local violence free campaign literature.

Requests to/Considerations by the Christchurch City Council

During October 2003 Leisure Unit staff considered a request for funding assistance towards the pre-production costs of staging *Once Were Warriors* that had an estimated budget of \$603,567. The request was declined as the magnitude of the proposal far exceeded the "festivals and events" type budgets available for the remainder of the 2003/04 year.

Following a deputation by ARTCO and Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu at the 3 November 2003 Community and Leisure Committee meeting the following motion was lost:

"That the Community and Leisure Committee recommend to the Strategy and Finance Committee that it find a way of providing funding of \$20,000 for the "Make Christchurch Violence Free" household flier."

During the report of the 3 November 2003 Community and Leisure Committee minutes at the Council's 20 November 2003 meeting the clause relating to ARTCO was debated and the Council resolved:

"That the request for funding assistance is favourably viewed by the Council and that the matter be referred back to the Community and Leisure Committee to negotiate the degree of support and required outcomes and that the Committee be given delegated power to act in this matter."

At its 24 November 2003 meeting the Community and Leisure Committee resolved:

"That staff meet with Jim Moriarty (Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu) and Alan Silcock (ARTCO) to discuss their funding request and report back to a Sub-Committee of the Chairperson Graham Condon and Councillor Carole Anderton."

STAFF MEETINGS

As no "source of funding monies" were recorded with the Council's 20 November 2003 resolution I have discussed potential funding resources with Community and Recreation Unit staff. It seems that, as there no remaining monies available for allocation under the 2003/04-year Festival and Events budget for such a project, any funding allocation will have to be drawn from the community funding budgets within the Metropolitan Community Discretionary Fund.

Clarification was also sought from the General Manager of Regulation and Democracy Services around the 20 November 2003 resolution of the Council and was informed the following:

- that the Council's resolution of 20 November 2003 that funding assistance be favourably viewed was referring to a "Violence Free Christchurch" campaign household flier only
- that the Council in referring it back to Community and Leisure allocated no money with the resolution so any funding has to come from Community and Leisure funding avenues
- that the Council's delegated authority to Community and Leisure Committee for a final decision was for the Committee as a whole and not to another grouping or sub-committee of Councillors.

Meetings were held with Allan Silcock (ARTCO) and Jim Moriarty (Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu) on 28 November and 11 December 2003 to discuss their proposals further. Their proposal is seeking CCC funding consideration as a financial sponsor of the production and/or an allocation of a community grant to support the production's community campaign for a violence free Christchurch (as part of a national violence free Aotearoa campaign). As a number of the social issues associated with this production highlight the lack of employment and training opportunities, creating safer families and communities, alcohol and drug abuse, mental health issues, lifestyles leading to criminal convictions and social isolation, the discussions included other funding agencies such as Creative NZ, the Community Employment Group, WINZ, Child Youth and Family, the Canterbury Development Corporation, Community and Public Health, He Oranga Pounamu, the social and economic departments of Ngai Tahu, Te Puni Kokiri etc.

I attended the jointly hosted Safer Christchurch and Stopping Violence Services meeting on 28 November 2003 which was called to explore ways the two production companies could work with local social service agencies on addressing the social being raised by the musical

Staff met with Councillors Condon and Anderton on 29 January 2004 for an update and to explore Council funding options and possible community outcomes the musical and violence free campaign would bring to the people and communities of Christchurch. Councillors James and Keast joined for parts of this meeting also.

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

I have sought comment from social service agencies working in the youth, women and family support/development sector around the service demand issues that may impact on this social service sector following the performances. The two production companies have been working on this project for a number of years while the locally based social service agencies may be given no more than three months "notice to come on board". Most, if not all of these social service agencies, have already budgeted out their operational year and have not budgeted in the possibility of such new work. How do they and the wider community respond to individuals and families who "suddenly" and traumatically are called to face a reality that the show brings to the surface? Who, financially and professionally, makes the long term commitment to resource this "fallout"? Are there any evaluations of the impact/benefit such productions have in addressing the issues raised by the production/show, the impact on "called in" social service agencies, does it influence any changes in individual and family behaviours and community attitudes? A response on these questions has also been sought from ARTCO and Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu.

Safer Christchurch and Stopping Violence Services have hosted two meetings with local community development and social service agencies to explore ways of how community agencies could work together with a "joint project(s)" around the social issues being raised through *Once Were Warriors*. This could include a violence free Christchurch campaign, community based anti-violence hui, a directory of social support agency contacts available at the shows. A steering committee was formed to progress these and other ideas further. ARTCO and Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu have been part of these meetings.

On the musical's matinee days the director and cast will host forums to address the community issues raised in the musical using the characters as examples. The public will be invited to attend these free forums. An interactive education resource kit is being developed for use by schools to assist children focus on ways of breaking the cycle of violence.

In preparing this report staff have received high praise for the theatre production work of Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu and Jim Moriarty. Comments were also made that such a production could very successfully launch the people of this city and country into becoming members of a violence free community and nation. Running alongside such a production there will need to be a long term commitment from the necessary professions, government agencies, community funders and social service agencies working with and supporting multi-dimensional approaches to family violence.

FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

In meetings with staff and Councillors there continues to be some "differences of understanding" around the Council's resolution of 20 November 2003. Some say that the resolution as recorded is what was passed at the meeting while others are clear that the resolution spoke to a figure of \$20,000 from a Council budget. Further clarification is being sought.

If the Community and Leisure Committee wishes to support this proposal the following considerations are put forward so as to be included in your decision making process:

- Based on my experience of over 30 years of living within community development, social justice and community based social service delivery initiatives I have reservations around the effectiveness and impact a "coming into town" social initiative has in addressing local social issues and supporting long term development for change.
- If the Metropolitan Community Discretionary Fund is confirmed as the only Council funding source available to support this proposal it is not recommended that such funds be allocated to the production costs of the musical. This is based on the understanding that one Council fund should not be used to "top up" an already expended Council budget that has a specific focus. In this case for example Festival and Events.
- How effective is a household flier in encouraging action over a social issue and influencing social change?
- Priority funding consideration be given to further supporting the community development and social service agencies who are currently working within this being a "violence free" society. The Safer Christchurch hosted meetings called in response to this musical and campaign objectives may identify appropriate projects. Findings and recommendations from the two Safer Christchurch hosted community meetings will be tabled at the Committee's meeting.

With five months remaining in this 2003/04 financial year the Metropolitan Community Discretionary Fund has \$20,000 available for allocation.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the Committee give due consideration in providing funding of up to \$20,000 to support the initiatives that may be recommended from the social organisation meetings being hosted by Safer Christchurch.

Chairman's

- Recommendation:** For discussion.