YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to an application for funding from its 2004/05 Youth Development Fund.

Funding is being sought for two applicants from the Opawa area who have won the regional Manu Korero Speech Contest and have been selected to compete at the National Competitions being held in Palmerston North on 14 September 2004.

Both applicants attend Te Kura Whakapumau, a special character school established in 1992 in Opawa. There are currently 120 students ranging from new entrants to sixth formers. The high school section has 26 pupils and Maori is the language of instruction.

The National Maori Speech Competition was established in 1960 under the sponsorship of the secondary teacher's union, the PPTA. The competition is held annually and is more commonly known as Nga Manu Korero. There are four sections – Junior English, Junior Maori, Senior English and Senior Maori. It has grown into a huge event on the Maori calendar with 12 regions sending a total of 48 speakers to compete. At the end of each speech, a group of students from that school stand and haka their support. Because of this support, approximately 1,200 students attend the three day national event.

This year, Aranui High School hosted the Canterbury regional contest, attended by close to 1,000 people. Out of the four sections, the applicants' school won two – the Junior Maori and Junior English. The two winning students will now represent Canterbury at the Nationals.

The Competition is being held in Palmerston North from 14-16 September 2004. The Kura intends to take 26 secondary students (the two competition winners and their supporting kapahaka group), together with six adults, including teachers.

The applicants' schedule will be as follows:

13 September Depart Christchurch by train, catch ferry, bus from Wellington to Palmerston North

14 September Powhiri (welcome)

15 September Speeches start; disco in evening.

16 September Speeches finish; prize giving; bus to Wellington; overnight accommodation.

17 September Bus to ferry; return by train to Christchurch.

The cost of the trip for the entire group of 32 people is \$11,908, and a total of \$6,420 has been raised towards the trip, leaving a shortfall of \$5,488. An application is currently under consideration by Metro Charitable Trust, and if that application is successful, the application to the Community Board will be withdrawn.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board consider allocating \$500 to each applicant from its 2004/05

Youth Development Fund (a total of \$1,000), to assist with costs associated with two applicants attending the National Manu Korero Maori Secondary Schools Speech Competitions in Palmerston North in September 2004.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be supported.