

11. SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME APPLICATION – TIMOTHY JACKSON

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services DDI 941-8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Community Support Unit
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present a request for \$500 by 17 year old Timothy Jackson of Broadoaks, to the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board from its Youth Achievement Fund.
2. The request is for \$500 towards the cost of Timothy travelling to Shanghai, China and participating in the 2010 Shanghai International Youth Technology Expo.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The request for funding is to support and recognise the achievement of Timothy Jackson being selected to represent New Zealand in a team of six taking part in the third International Youth Technology Expo in Shanghai, organised by the Chinese government. It is expected that up to 200 countries will be represented by teams of secondary school students at the expo. Only one school per country is selected. Each potential entrant was required to submit a solution project thesis on Climate Change with a PowerPoint presentation. Timothy's team is the New Zealand team selected and formally invited to take part. Participating teams will be given an exhibition area to display their work in operation which must include a piece of scientific creation, and a multimedia animation. The team has been given only one month's notice to organise and raise funds for the trip, as well as complete the work required for the Expo. The Expo runs from 13-17 July, and the team travel period covers 9-20 July 2010.
4. Timothy Jackson resides in Broadoaks, and is a 17 year old student of Christchurch Boys' High School. Timothy has high interest and talent in the field of electronics and computer technology. He also plays Saturday rugby and enjoys free skiing as much as possible. Timothy has reached NCEA Level 2 qualifications and his strength in electronics was evidenced by his score of 98% in his last end of year test. Earlier this year, as a result of showing promise and knowledge in electronics, Tim was invited into the advanced technology group, "The Shanghai Youth Expo Team" that aimed for inclusion in the Shanghai Expo. Tim's ambition is to build a career in the electronics industry, and sees this venture as a chance to benefit from some of the world's leading minds in this field. He is also aware of the opportunity to act as a national ambassador and show case New Zealand to Expo attendees otherwise interested in our country.
5. The New Zealand team will be presenting a working greenhouse controller model at the Expo that demonstrates a solution to food production under climate change using technology. Their solution is a regulated greenhouse system that uses controllers to monitor light, temperature, and humidity to provide optimum conditions for the production of food. This solution was offered in the team's qualifying thesis. The invitation to participate has created a challenge and pressure for the team to build their demonstration work in a short period of time, on top of organising the trip and fund raising for a significant budget. Timothy is cited by the school as an essential member of the team. He has been a key contributor to the winning presentation software, as well as the programming for the Expo presentation and display. This has required concentrated effort over the past few weeks, taking up his weekends and evenings to reach the tight deadline. He has also worked, including an after school job stacking shelves, to raise funds toward the costs of the trip.
6. Timothy is supported by Christchurch Boy's High School with this application. A letter of support from the school acknowledges his talents and that "he has worked countless hours on getting the required presentations and speeches ready". The school identifies the skill development, wider challenges, and personal opportunities the trip to China and associated event will provide:

- (i) public speaking in front of hundreds of overseas students to present his uniquely New Zealand view of climate change
- (ii) work as a team to sell the groups idea of a Greenhouse Controller.
- (iii) use his knowledge of science to complete set tasks.
- (iv) think creatively to find novel ways to combat climate change.
- (v) interact with students from many different countries.
- (vi) represent Christchurch Boys' High School and New Zealand.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. This is the first time that the applicant has approached the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board for funding. Timothy is working to achieve a budget target of \$3,500 in total that will be needed to cover airfares, food, transport, and accommodation. Given the short notice the team received of their success, fund raising is a major challenge. At the time of writing, progress of funds raised against target was as follows:

Fundraising	Targets
New Zealand Asian Foundation - pending	\$500
New Zealand Royal Society – secured	\$1,000
Riccarton Rotary – share of team grant	\$350
School donation – share of team grant	\$150
Chinese friend donation	\$100
After school job – anticipated savings	\$300
Total	\$2,400
Remaining shortfall	\$1,100
Amount requested from Community Board	\$500

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

8. Yes.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

9. There are no legal considerations.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

10. Yes.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

11. Yes.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

12. This application aligns with the following Council Strategies:

- Strengthening Communities Strategy
- Youth Strategy
- Climate Smart Strategy
- Sustainable Energy Strategy

The application meets the criteria of the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board Youth Achievement Scheme. However, due to timing issues beyond the control of the applicant, grant payment would be retrospective.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

13. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board declines to make a Youth Achievement grant to Timothy Jackson as the Discretionary Response Fund criteria does not allow for retrospective grants.

CHAIRPERSONS RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.