

9. SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME APPLICATION – HARRY TOTHILL

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services DDI 941-8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Community Support
Author:	Community Development Adviser Jay Sepie, DDI 941-5102

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present a request to the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board for \$500 from its Youth Achievement Fund, by 16 year old Christ's College Year 12 student Harry Tothill of Cashmere.
2. The request is for \$500 towards the costs of Harry Tothill travelling to a selection of countries and The Hague as a youth delegate representing New Zealand in The Hague Model United Nations being held in January 2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The Hague International Model United Nations began in 1969, and attracts around 4,000 students and teachers from over 200 schools around the world. Selection to take part in the event is competitive, and based on a written application, performance at the national level Model United Nations, references, and an interview with a national selection panel. Harry is one of sixteen applicants chosen out of 40 to 50 applicants at the recent national conference. He has been involved in the programme for around two years, having attended four regional Model United Nations Conferences in Canterbury, and two national conferences in Wellington. He expresses passion for the programme and what it stands for, and has a future ambition to help with organising the conferences.
4. The United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand that organises participation and travel, will take the youth delegates to places and cities that illustrate United Nations principles, including international NGOs, embassies, and war memorials, en route to the Hague. These visits will inform research and preparation for the team to represent a country at the main event. The itinerary includes Seoul, Paris, Geneva, Berlin, and Amsterdam.
5. The conference itself runs for six days involving the General Assembly opening, lobbying with committees and stakeholder organisations, resolutions and debate, and council and commission reports culminating in a General Assembly presentation of reports and resolutions. The reports and resolutions of each council and commission are published, and sent annually to the Secretary – General of the United Nations. The New Zealand delegation will debate on behalf of a United Nations member state against student delegate teams from around the world. This year the New Zealand delegation represented Malawi, and last year it was The Republic of Korea.
6. According to the applicant: "Attending the conference will be a life-changing experience for me. Not only will it help my German (which I take at school) but it will also boost my confidence in public speaking and negotiation and will open my eyes to international politics and diplomacy." Harry is keen to promote the Model United Nations Conferences to other like-minded young people in the community as well as providing future organising support.
7. His contributions to the community to date have included voluntary work for the City Mission, help organising 70, 40 Hour Famine participants, help with cleaning and planting working bees, and being on the school's Environmental, Cultural, and SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk) Committees. Harry is recognised for 2005 choral quality and "sense of community" contributions to the Cathedral Choir, and has a letter of support from the Dean of Christchurch, The Very Reverend Peter Beck, who supports his application as "a tremendous opportunity for a most articulate, bright and personable young man," and also states that Harry "will make a most mature and informed contribution" as the recently appointed representative of Christ's College to the Christchurch Diocesan Synod which is the policy making body of the Anglican Church in this region.

8. Other interests and achievements of the applicant include acting and back stage support for six school drama productions, tramping, sailing, water skiing, and snow skiing. Choral involvement at the moment involves both membership of the school's main choir, and of the specialist senior choir (Schola Cantorum), and singing lessons. Harry has recently completed the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award. As well as a full history of school academic prizes including Excellence at all NCEA Level 1 subjects, he has gained Speech and Drama Grade 5 with Honours (New Zealand Speech Board), and came sixth in the 2010 New Zealand Young Physicists' Tournament. He holds a senior student Somes scholarship with the College and is a member of the Scholars group comprised of invited academic high achievers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board for a Youth Achievement Scheme grant. The total budget target to cover airfares, travel, food, accommodation, and conference fees is \$7,000. The estimated sources to meet this target, and contribution sought from the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board are as follows:

Fundraising	Targets
Personal savings	\$1,000
Holiday job	\$500
Papanui Rotary Club (pending), and other funding organisations not yet approached	\$3,000
Christ's College (pending)	\$2,000
Total	\$6,500
Remaining shortfall	\$500
Amount requested from Community Board	\$500

10. At the time of writing this report there is currently a balance of \$6,600 available in the 2010/11 Youth Achievement Scheme fund.

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

11. Yes.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

12. There are no legal considerations.

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

13. Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

14. Yes.

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

15. Yes.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

16. This application aligns with the following Council Strategies:
- Strengthening Communities Strategy
 - Youth Strategy

16. This application aligns with the following Community Board objectives:
- Improve social well-being in Spreydon/Heathcote
 - A culturally inclusive Spreydon/Heathcote community

The application meets the criteria of the Spreydon/Heathcote Youth Achievement Scheme.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

17. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board allocate \$500 to Harry Tohill from the 2010/11 Spreydon/Heathcote Youth Achievement Fund as a contribution towards the costs of his travel to and participation in The Hague Model United Nations in January 2011.

CHAIRPERSONS' RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.