

Community Sector Taskforce



Panui 022

17 Sept 2007

What's happening?

Several people/organisations have been wondering what's happening with the Taskforce. The work is still being done voluntarily while we wait for the Minister to make her decision.

One of the clear messages from the National Forum held in Wellington in June, was that people in the Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector have clearly indicated that there should be an **independent national body** which is **led by the sector, based on Tiriti/Treaty relationships**, and **significantly funded** by government. This organisation would be able to advocate on issues affecting the sector, such as resourcing, policy development and legislation. It would also strengthen the sector by ensuring we are well-informed and well-connected. The strength of a national organisation would come through the strength of local and regional networks.

Despite the delay from Wellington there has been lots of progress made although at a slower pace:

- The draft Strategic Plan is just being finalised ready to present to the Reference Groups to gauge whether we are on the right track or not.
- A funding application has been lodged with the Lotteries Commission for some funding. A decision will be known in October after which time a hui will be called of the Reference Group members.
- We are in close contact with ANGOA as part of this process as agreed at the forum in June 07.

What next?

The Taskforce proposes that an initial Kaitiaki (guardian) Group be established. The role of the Kaitiaki Group would be to establish an independent-from-government; sector-led, government-funded group representing the sector, based on the Tiriti/Treaty Relationships Framework.

- Regions will be requested to submit two people (one Tangata Whenua / one Tangata Tiriti) to be regional representatives on the Kaitiaki Group. Those organisations who were Host Agents for Community Korero hui will be asked to assist in facilitating that process.
- For regions who did not host a Community Korero Hui such as Taranaki, Manawatu, Bay of Plenty, North Shore, West Coast, Central Auckland we will be seeking support from organisations that would be willing to facilitate that process.

Our Website

There is plenty of activity on our website – www.cst.org.nz. The weekly dispatches of Informed Communities are still being sent to everyone. These are combination of the following:

- **Media Alerts** – regular happenings in the Sector. Newsletters, information bulletins, media statements from the Sector etc. These are posted daily to the website and if you wish to receive them as soon as they are posted, you can click on to register join. If you wish to have items to be dispatched, send them to communitysectortaskforce@paradise.net.nz.
- **Job Vacancies** – these are vacancies within the Sector, only and are posted to the website when they are received. If you want to receive Job Vacancies more regularly you can click on to register and join. If you have any job vacancies you wish to advertise, send them to communitysectortaskforce@paradise.net.nz.
- **What's on and Where?** – these are Community events and activities that are happening throughout the country. They are posted to the website daily and if you want to receive them daily or when they are posted, just click on to register and join. If you have a community event or something happening you want people to know about, just send them to communitysectortaskforce@paradise.net.nz.

So ... you can receive individual components of Informed Community more regularly or you can continue to receive them altogether weekly.

There are two On-Line Discussion Groups established that anyone can join to have conversations with people:

- **Government Resourcing** – this group has been discussing matters relating to 'Managing Funding from Multiple Sources', 'Sustainable Funding and Accountability', the MECOSS 'Review on the Role of Funding Agencies'. If you wish to get involved in these discussion groups, click on register and join.
- **Community Employers** – this group was established for community employers to discuss the impact of Kiwi Saver. It is an excellent forum for employers to discuss issues they are faced with every day in their work place such as Staff Performance Appraisals, Succession Planning and Mentoring etc. If you wish to get involved in this discussion group, click on to register and join.

Any discussion points will be delivered to your email once you have joined. You can contribute to the discussion via your email or by logging into the site.

If you wish to establish a discussion group around a particular topic of interest within the Tangata Whenua, Community & Voluntary Sector, contact Iris Pahau on communitysectortaskforce@paradise.net.nz.