

## *Waitakere Wellbeing Collaboration Newsletter* *from Kim Conway, Wellbeing Collaboration Project Manager*

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### ***Kia ora and Greetings from the wonderful world of collaboration in Waitakere***

#### **2008 – The Journey Continues...**



Wellbeing Collaboration  
Project Manager

As we return from summer holiday breaks of beach, bush, barbecues and the countless DIY projects around home, many of us will have appreciated what a wonderful city Waitakere is to live and work in. Sadly that's not the reality for all of us and despite some encouraging gains in health, employment and education status we still have a way to go for all to enjoy a more equitable quality of life. There are some clear messages from the 2007 Wellbeing Summit and recently released reports recommending what we need to address. These will certainly be right there in the development of our Social Wellbeing Plan for Waitakere, along with the outcomes focus we've been working towards through some very stimulating results-based accountability planning workshops. There have been some brilliant wild and wacky ideas as well as proven and promising 'best practice actions that are currently under consideration or underway.

This year, we'll also be working in the context of the Royal Commission on Local Government and the upcoming national elections. We'll need to be proactive in promoting and maintaining support for our work in Waitakere, the features of what we do best here; the visions that inspire us, the seeking of innovative solutions through our cutting-edge collaborative initiatives, our unity in diversity and our focus on sustainability. We want the Waitakere Way to shine through so that not only Waitakere benefits but we share the struggles and successes with others as well as ourselves to learn from and continually improve on.

### **2007 Summit “Living on a Social Tightrope” – from Inspiration to Action**

It was great to see the diverse range of approximately 170 people from community organisations, council and government agencies participating in the 2007 Summit at the Kelston Community Centre. This was a watershed Summit signalling new challenges and new directions. The previous Summit had celebrated and cemented the collaboration process. This Summit emphasized the growing concerns about a significant number of people who are still far from experiencing wellbeing in Waitakere and a concerted raft of approaches required to really make change happen. It also illustrated the evolving role of the Wellbeing Collaboration Project and the need to develop a bicultural process for the way ahead.



Our impressive line-up of guest speakers highlighted key issues and responses.



Megan Tunks

**Megan Tunks**, a public health strategist for Hapai te Hauora Tapui (regional Maori public health provider - Auckland) posed the question “Is the Wellbeing Collaboration Project making a difference for Maori?” She spoke of what worked for Maori and outlined several validated Maori models of practice -Maori Ora Mauri Ora (Hapai), Maori models and measures of wellbeing and evaluation, Te Pae Mahutonga (Durie), Te Whare Tapawha (Durie) and Te Wheke (Pere). Common features of working with these included Maori cultural concepts and values, activities relevant to Maori worldviews and aspirations, relevance to Maori realities in the urban setting, accessible and appropriate participation for Maori and of course rangatiratanga, resources and partnerships.



Alan Johnson

**Alan Johnson**, a strategic policy advisor for the Auckland Regional Council and Salvation Army Policy and Parliamentary Unit identified the growing inequities and social hazards, who lives in poverty and the key influences on why this will have to change e.g. aging population and political dominance of the baby-boomers, globalization and mobility of capital and skills. He talked about building communities of hope: addressing inequality, poverty and social exclusion through very practical community development initiatives working where the people are alongside the big picture processes and movements to support these.



Emma Davies

**Emma Davies**, Principal Advisor (Auckland) for the Office of the Children's Commissioner reflected on what was raised at the Summit in relation to the development of our children. She stressed the critical importance of focusing on the social wellbeing environment of the first three years of our children's lives – how the early years significantly shape future outcomes for individuals and ultimately society. Children are the largest age group living in severe/significant hardship in New Zealand and the numbers are increasing. Providing adequate income, effective parenting and supportive communities would create better outcomes.

We heard from **Annette Smithard** and **Tony Rea** about the development of the Council's Social Strategy which will provide a potential framework for the proposed *Social Wellbeing Plan for the City*.

There was a brief overview of the Wellbeing Collaboration Project and its journey, where it had come from, where it was now and where it was headed. Active Waitakere was formerly proposed and welcomed as the newest Call to Action. Informative displays in the main hall detailed the activities of all the Calls to Action.

A pre-Summit hui with Maori raised the challenges of working bi-culturally as Treaty partners and recommended that:

- A partnership approach, consistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi be adopted in the way Maori are engaged in the Wellbeing Collaboration Project.
- A Maori reference group participate in the current review of the Wellbeing Collaboration Project, including post-summit evaluation

The Pacific Board (Tahi Fasi) and Ethnic Board (Lusi Schwenke) also presented recommendations from pre-Summit meetings addressing the key Summit themes.

### Summit Workshops

The workshop themes framed up as social wellbeing outcomes for the city were drawn from social wellbeing priorities identified in the Local Services Mapping Report (MSD) Community Outcomes consultation process, and Call to Action work.



*Ko te pae tawhiti whāia kia tata,  
ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tina*

*Seek out the distant horizons, and  
cherish those that you attain*

*“The problems we face will  
not be solved by the same  
level of consciousness that  
created them.”*

Albert Einstein

A series of brief backgrounders were produced on each workshop theme to help inform discussion on trends and good practice in each area.

An action planning (Results Based Accountability) approach drawing on evidence and experience was used in the workshops. This provided a picture of the current context and helped set the scene for future collaborative activity with priorities and a wealth of great ideas for action including low cost/no cost/off the wall ideas.

*Tawhiti rawa to haerenga ake,  
te kore haere tonu.  
Nui rawa o mahi, te kore mahi  
tonu*

*You have come too far, not to  
go further.*

*You have done too much, not  
to do more*

Sir James Henare

### Where to from here?

Feedback and recommended priorities have been distributed to Summit participants and stakeholders working in the relevant areas for follow-up activity (including current Calls to Action). Some are already being actioned. Others will also inform future work proposed through the development and roll-out of the *Social Strategy* and *Social Wellbeing Plan for the City*.

**NB** All of the papers presented, backgrounders and workshop summaries as well as some great photos are available on the website:

<http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/OurPar/collabproj.asp>

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**Workshop summaries** – recommendations for action (these included no-cost/low-cost and off the wall ideas)

#### Workshop 1: **Everyone is Healthy & Safe in Waitakere/ Oranga Tinana, Oranga Whanau**

- Plan multi-purpose centres with community with space for medical clinics
- Create family focused service centres around schools
- Support development of community facilities by streamlining Council planning processes and eliminating consent fees (less time & cost)
- Advocate for ethical funding so not reliant on funding from gambling
- Take ideas from summit back to community and ask their views

#### Workshop 2: **There is a Strong Sense of Community and People Feel Connected and Valued in Waitakere/ Turangawaewae, Hapu and Iwitanga**

- Revive neighbourhood support across the city
- Create safe places to meet and interact e.g. spaces in shopping centres where people can talk/engage
- Promote street level events/pride in street /nominate friendliest streets
- Resource community organisations e.g. Maori wardens to train Pacific and migrant wardens and work together as one self sustaining sector in Waitakere
- Literature and film festival of migrant work
- Migrants Day March; new settlers from one direction, permanent residents from the other meet in the middle

#### Workshop 3: **All Young People/Rangatahi in Waitakere are able to Make Positive Life Choices/ Puawaitanga o te hunga Taiohi**

- Develop an overall plan and community map so child and youth providers know how they all fit in, with funders and doers linking on an ongoing basis
- Youth development coordinator - include youth focus in Calls to Action
- Ensure youth voice and youth engagement in strategy to develop more youth-centred services in the city
- Increase participation of young people in decision making through empowering youth leaders
- Connect all new parents to an experienced parent as family mentor
- Evaluate existing parenting education and activities and make better use of existing resources and information available
- Create community pauses for focus on families (time for reflection and celebration) e.g. TV & Shopping free days, "Homes for Peace" day

*"I am of the opinion that my  
life belongs to the community,  
and as long as I live, it is my  
privilege to do for it whatever I  
can. I want to be thoroughly  
used up when I die, for the  
harder I work the more I live.  
Life is no "brief candle" for  
me. It is a sort of splendid  
torch which I have got hold of  
for a moment, and I want to  
make it burn as brightly as  
possible, before handing it on  
to future generations."*

George Bernard Shaw



Heavenly K-OS

Our awesome young Waitakere  
entertainers performing at the  
Summit

*"Poor communities face the greatest social risk because they have the least resources, the most limited choices, if any, in where they live, what they eat, etc. The risks they face are ignored or trivialised, they aren't told about the risks they face. The consequences of the risks are blamed on them rather than the circumstances."*

Allan Johnson

*"The Treaty is far from being a fossilised document ... it is a beacon for the future ... an embryo of principles, values and ideas to be worked out, developed and adjusted over time."*

Denise Henare,  
Law Commissioner, 2000



Monica Sharma  
New Out West

#### Workshop 4: **All Families in Waitakere Have Enough to Live On/ Oranga Whanau, Manaakitanga**

- Increase opportunities for financial literacy especially a proactive approach for children and young people e.g. through school curriculum
- Advocate for regulation of financial sector (non- banking lending agencies)
- Organise advocates/agencies to support people to learn how to access services (One-Stop Shop) – so they can advocate and access services for themselves
- Establish a Waitakere roundtable with community level empowerment

#### Workshop 5: **Affordable Safe Housing for Everyone in Waitakere/ Papakainga**

- Develop more emergency housing, especially in Massey and Henderson;
- Advocate for legislative changes to ensure security of tenure for renters
- Fix up houses (healthy homes) for most vulnerable groups - require WOF for all rental housing
- Set up shared equity trusts driven by community with the council having a role

#### Workshop 6: **Older People Live Well in Waitakere/ Support for and by Kaumatua and Kuia**

- Promote culturally relevant services with a holistic approach to wellbeing and practical support for older people
- Have an 0800 line for older people using existing information resources
- Support village style accessible co-operative housing and retrofitting housing to enable older people to remain in their own environments
- Develop a special Gold Card for easy access to community support services
- Advocate for GST to be taken off food

#### Workshop 7: **Maori Caucus**

- Ensure Maori participation is a partnership approach, based on tikanga Maori, to underpin the Wellbeing Collaboration Project
- Hold a hui for Maori to review participation in Summit and Collaboration Project review - committed to getting the process right

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## “Calls to Action” Update:

### Every migrant and refugee in Waitakere settles successfully (New Out West)

- Employment support groups have continued to be organised through Settlement Support Services with participants experiencing a good success rate in gaining employment
- A local Migrant and Refugee Information Guide is being produced and will be available in Citizens Advice Bureaux, libraries etc in the new year
- The previous Settlement Support Service coordinators Julie Newell and Jennie Derrick were farewelled and two new people appointed. Both are migrants Ayumi Shibata, formerly at NZ Ethnic Social Services and Elizabeth Tuck with previous Massey CAB experience
- A recent Results Based Accountability workshop built on earlier planning in identifying priority activities to be further developed into a 2008 Action Plan

**Convenor: Monica Sharma** [monica.sharma@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:monica.sharma@waitakere.govt.nz)  
Ph 836 8000 ext 8417

## CRITERIA FOR CALLS TO ACTION

- Answers a need or problem identified as a priority; Represents a Call to Action – will motivate and strike a chord within the community
- Simple and easily understood by all
- Multi-agency involvement; Start simple so we can learn and practice collaborative practice;
- Focus on areas where collaboration can add value
- Will make a measurable improvement to Wellbeing
- Achievable within a realistic timeframe

*"The illiterate of the 21st Century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn."*

Alvin Toffler



Chris McLean  
Waitakere Education  
Sector Trust

## Every Waitakere resident has access to affordable appropriate housing

- At last a coordinator - Graeme Smith who has a strong social services and local community background was appointed in May. Graeme is currently engaged in writing up a Housing Action Plan based on the priorities identified in a recent Results Based Accountability workshop such as tenants' advocacy support, a Pacific community affordable housing initiative, and a Curtain Bank to improve healthy housing conditions
- This group provided input on suggested priorities to the draft Waitakere Council Housing Plan which is being fine-tuned to present to the Council in early 2008
- The Secure Home Tenure research proposal was funded and Lee Hickey from Unitec is currently undertaking this study in Waitakere
- The Social Housing area is steadily building with Friendship Centre Trust now providing two emergency houses and more being purchased with a plan of acquiring fifty houses over the next 10 years. Monte Cecilia has recently purchased a complex of six houses in Ranui. Both have dedicated wrap-around social services support. Monte Cecilia's housing support coordinator based at the Ranui Action is also available to assist with general social housing enquiries throughout Waitakere
- A December field trip to the Hobsonville Land Company's planned mixed housing development was most informative with great discussion and practical ideas on building sustainable communities
- On April 10, this C2A will be organising a Secure Tenure Housing Forum along with the Australasian Housing Institute at the Kelston Community Centre. It will focus on affordability, rental housing issues and solutions.



Visit to Hobsonville Land Company

**Convenor: Graeme Smith** [graeme@wadcross.org.nz](mailto:graeme@wadcross.org.nz)  
Ph 838 7904 or 021468577

## Schools and Communities working well together to improve education and community outcomes

- Development of the city-wide Learning Plan has been the key focus. After the extensive stakeholder consultation undertaken by the coordinator, this information was workshopped at the very successful Sustainable Learning Conference March 07
- The further information gathered with feedback was given to different sector groups to produce their visions for the Learning Plan. The sector groups are: **Early Childhood Education, Waitakere Ethnic Board, Pasifika Education Sector, Secondary Student Leaders' Forum, Waitakere Area Principals' Association (Primary and Secondary), Board of Trustees, Special Education, Tertiary/Private Training Establishments, Adult and Community Education, and Maori**
- A useful spin-off following the Board of Trustees sector group meeting was the formation of a Waitakere BOT network
- All the sector groups came together for the first time in December to present outlines of their Learning Plan goals
- The Learning Plan is now up in draft form on the Waitakere Education Sector Trust (WEST) website as a work-in-progress [http://www.west.org.nz/Site/Learning\\_Plan.ashx](http://www.west.org.nz/Site/Learning_Plan.ashx)
- The Waitakere Education Sector Trust (WEST) and C2A groups have agreed to amalgamate their meetings as the primary focus for both is the Learning Plan
- As a result of the work undertaken by WEST and the C2A, Council will continue to support the development and implementation of the Learning Plan through the establishment of a new Council education advisor's role, to be appointed early in 2008

**Convenor: Chris McLean** [Chris.mclean@west.org.nz](mailto:Chris.mclean@west.org.nz)



Anita Weir

## Every child has access to quality, early childhood education (ECE)

- ECE is leading the Early Childhood sector group for the Waitakere Learning Plan in terms of both developing their vision and its direction
- Regular Breakfast Bashes with stimulating speakers remain popular for early childhood education service providers who also enjoy the networking and information-sharing
- There's been an emphasis on building up the Night Forums to pull in more parents with a good response to excellent presenters such as the Brainwave Trust
- Planning for the 2008 Toddlers Day Out/Great Parenting Fair on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March is full steam ahead. Last year was the biggest ever (11,000 attended) and it's now been recognised as an iconic Waitakere event with the likelihood of having its own event organiser in future years
- After background work exploring options for a Multicultural Resource centre, the coordinator will take on a clearinghouse role to disseminate Multicultural Resource information. ECE's website will provide additional specific information as well
- ECE's website which provides information on all early childhood centres in Waitakere has recently been updated See <http://www.ece-express.co.nz>

**Convenor: Anita Weir** [ece.waitakere@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ece.waitakere@xtra.co.nz) Ph 838 7105

## Te Korowai Manaaki – Great Start Waitakere (Preventing Violence to under 5)

- Congratulations to Ngaroimata Reid, Project Manager for Te Korowai Manaaki who's just graduated from a twelve month course with Leadership New Zealand.
- Te Korowai Manaaki is based on the Maori model – *Te Korowai – a cloak of care and protection* and is comprised of several collaborative groups working on key projects
- Te Korowai Manaaki Members recently participated in a very helpful workshop facilitated by Francis Hancock to look at governance and future directions for this project. Te Korowai Manaaki has firmly decided to continue as a project for another five years

### Hono i te Ora Maori Caucus

- The Caucus is currently working with Everyday Communities Waitakere and Radio Waatea on a twelve month radio campaign under the kaupapa of Hui Tahi Tupu Tahi – Come Together Grow Together launched in the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2007. The aim of the campaign is to deliver family violence prevention messages and korero with the Maori community about family violence issues
- The Maori Caucus is also delivering SKIP messages to whanau and parents, and joined in with Te Whanau o Waipareira, Sport Waitakere and Safe Waitakere and held Tamariki Ora, Whanau, Whanui Day in October.
- Along with the WAVES Trust the Caucus is also developing a bi-cultural training package for community workers which will be a national first.

*(Project led by Stella Gukibau - Tu Wahine Trust)*

### Ataata o le Taeao Pasifika Caucus

A very successful fono was organised jointly with Ola Fa'asaoina on road safety, positive Pasifika parenting and addressing family violence. The Samoan Potopoto has been active with a SKIP parenting initiative.

*(Project led by Lusi Schwenke)*

### Te Korowai Manaaki Promoting Great Parenting

This has been a busy project with a number of activities such as Positive Fathering Week held in September, and Parenting for Peace - awareness raising and promotion of positive parenting messages through theatre and activities in shopping malls. Preparations are also underway for the 2008 Toddlers Day Out and Great Parenting Fair in March

*(Project led by Elaine Dyer - Violence Free Waitakere)*



Papa Fred Holloway, Kaumatua Te Korowai Manaaki, Ngaroimata Reid, Project Manager & Te Kauhoe Wano, Host/producer Radio Waatea at the launch of the Hui Tahi Tapa Tahi—Come Together, Grow Together radio campaign on 25 October 2007

*"Prevention/early intervention is an attempt to shift the balance from vulnerability to resilience, either by decreasing exposure to risk factors and stressful life events and/or increasing the number of available protective factors in the lives of vulnerable children."*

Emmy Werner  
The Children of Kauai



Sue Ngawati Osborne  
(Ngati Hine /Te Uri Taniwha)



Kerry Allen

## Te Korowai Manaaki Family Violence Prevention Training for Community Workers

The Family Violence Prevention Bicultural Training Package for Community Workers is currently under development and nearing completion. A trial will be conducted in early 2008 and a training plan then conducted with organisations that have already been identified and are keen to be involved.

(Project led by Sue Ngawati Osborne – WAVES Trust)

## Te Korowai Manaaki Locality Project

Community Action funding has been secured for a locality project in Massey which will be run alongside other initiatives such as Massey Matters, Tatou West Harbour and Everyday Communities.

(Project led by Te Korowai Manaaki – Great Start Waitakere)

**Project Manager: Ngaroimata Reid [ngaroimata@reiddesign.co.nz](mailto:ngaroimata@reiddesign.co.nz)  
Ph 834 8174 or 021 233 8044**

## Violence Against Women and Children is Reduced

- Following a review this Call to Action has re-convened its meetings and held a Results-Based Accountability planning workshop.
- Priority actions have potentially been highlighted, focusing on Protection Orders and more effective intervention programmes for men and women.
- Further strategic planning will continue and will be linked with the Mayoral Taskforce on Preventing Violence work as appropriate.

**Convenor: Sue Ngawati Osborne [coordinator@waves.org.nz](mailto:coordinator@waves.org.nz)  
Ph 838-4834**

## Active Waitakere (More people more active more often)

Their first year has been focused on developing operational and planning frameworks. They've also been building relationships amongst member organisations and gaining a good understanding of different member agency roles.

A Results Based Accountability workshop was held prior to getting the development of the Waitakere Physical Activity Strategy (WPAS) underway - due for completion in February 2008.

A discussion paper on the proposed WPAS has been produced following extensive consultation and sent out for feedback. The paper outlines collaborative priorities and the key improvement areas for their 5 different age/ lifestage sectors with the goal of increasing the number of physically active people by 10% over the next 10 years.

Active Massey is up and running as part of the Massey Matters initiative. It's designed to get people active and also to strengthen the community through sport and activity. An Activity programme is being organised with local people. Two highlights so far amongst the over 40 local events scheduled have been the Top Team and Massey on the Move events.

A Push Play collaborative project team is also working with local groups to promote and implement activities/events that encourage 30 minutes physical activity a day.

**Convenor: Kerry Allen [kerry.allan@sportwaitakere.co.nz](mailto:kerry.allan@sportwaitakere.co.nz)  
Ph 966 3108 or 027 209 2808**

## Flown the Nest – Culture of Inclusion and Infotech

These two have now relinquished their roles as Calls to Action, having achieved key tasks they set for themselves. Culture of Inclusion decided to go into recess after revising the checklist. The Convenor will call a meeting about September 2008 to revisit the Charter of Inclusion and look at obtaining new signatories. The Disability Information Waitakere Network (DIWN) will maintain a monitoring role. Infotech's role will now be included as part of Waitakereonline with exciting developments ahead such as help to set up websites and the hosting of community websites on Waitakereonline.



Annette Smithard

Putting Pen to Paper: *Profiles*  
(from page 39)

"This is a document of honour and mutual respect between consenting parties. Optimism invites confidence that the benefits and simplicities of this memorandum far outweigh the obstacles and difficulties that lie in wait."

*From the Introduction to MOU between Te Uri o Hau (Ngati Whatua) and Kaipara District Council*

*Māte huruhuru ka rere*

*It is the feathers that enable the bird to fly*

## RESOURCES

### Status of Children and Young People Report (Waitakere)

This is about to be released and gives a good picture of the state of play with children and young people aged 0-25 in Waitakere. The purpose is to report on and provide a set of indicators with which future improvements or developments in the lives of children and young people can be measured. It covers major areas such as child poverty and economic wellbeing, being healthy, achievement, enjoyment, safety, families, care and protection and safe homes and communities.

For copies or further information contact Annette Smithard  
[annette.smithard@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:annette.smithard@waitakere.govt.nz)

### Putting Pen to Paper: *Profiles*

Produced as a companion document to the **Putting Pen to Paper *Creating Partnering Agreements that Work*** (pictured on right) to provide practical examples of partnering experiences. It represents a fascinating range of sectors, scales, styles and degrees of collaborative working relationships. The eleven different case studies include two Waitakere examples, the North-West Wildlink Accord and the Community Waitakere and Waitakere City Council Partnering Agreement.

Available from [www.localcentral.govt.nz](http://www.localcentral.govt.nz) Some hard copies are available at the Waitakere City Council – contact: [strategyadmin@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:strategyadmin@waitakere.govt.nz)



### Quality of Life Report 2007

This report provides a comprehensive assessment of quality of life in 12 New Zealand cities. Its purpose is to provide information that informs the understanding of social, economic and environmental conditions which can be used to describe and quantify the quality of life of those living in New Zealand's main centres. Hard copies are available at the Waitakere City Council – contact [strategyadmin@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:strategyadmin@waitakere.govt.nz)

### Unitec Graduate Diploma in Not-for-Profit Management

Enrolments are now open for Unitec's highly regarded 2008 Graduate Diploma in Not for Profit Management Programme.

The initial course is being held twice in Auckland in February, the first three Saturdays at the Mt Albert campus and the other at the Waitakere campus on February 27- 29.

This course has been designed for managers and coordinators of not-for-profit organisations, team leaders, volunteers and board members. The only qualification of its kind, it addresses the complexity and unique challenges of managing in the not-for-profit sector, compared to a business or govt. department Study at your own pace in a supportive and cooperative learning environment. Build networks with fellow students working in similar roles across the diversity of the NFP sector For more details visit <http://www.unitec.ac.nz> or phone Shirleen Ali on (09) 8154321 ext 5068, or email [sali@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:sali@unitec.ac.nz)

## Upcoming Events

Note this is not an inclusive list and also includes both relevant events in Waitakere and elsewhere

**NB** If you have any items/coming events you want publicised you can use the Community Waitakere daily e-noticeboard, go to [www.wadcoss.org.nz](http://www.wadcoss.org.nz) and/or if local events put them on Waitakereonline [www.waitakereonline.co.nz/events/ecindex.aspx](http://www.waitakereonline.co.nz/events/ecindex.aspx)

### Marketing and Communications Workshops – 12<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> February

These workshops are for the not-for-profit sector, presented by Janet MacDonald, Director Atlas Communications & Media. Jointly supported by: Unitec, Waitakere City Council, Community Waitakere, Sport Waitakere & WEA. PLACES ARE LIMITED  
**Tuesday 12 February 9.15am-1pm**

To book ph Community Waitakere at 09 838-7903; [mandy@wadcoss.org.nz](mailto:mandy@wadcoss.org.nz)

or **Monday 18 February at 6.00pm to 9.30pm**

To book ph Christine Shepherd at 966 3120 or [admin@sportwaitakere.co.nz](mailto:admin@sportwaitakere.co.nz)

**Affordable Website Creation Workshop, 26 Feb, 6.30pm—9.00pm** (Trusts Stadium) to book ph Christine Shepherd at 966-3120 or [admin@sportwaitakere.co.nz](mailto:admin@sportwaitakere.co.nz)

**Toddlers Day Out/Great Parenting Fair, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** at Waitakere Trust Stadium

**Not for Profit Leadership conference** 'Managing & Governing for the Social Good' Napier, 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Further details <http://www.nfpconference.co.nz>

**Maori Social Wellbeing Hui March**, Hoani Waititi Marae, contact [wayne.knox@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:wayne.knox@waitakere.govt.nz) for further information

**Housing Secure Tenure Conference April 10<sup>th</sup>, 9-5pm**, Kelston Community Centre. For further information contact [Graeme@wadcoss.org.nz](mailto:Graeme@wadcoss.org.nz)

## Community Research Clearing House

[www.communityresearch.org.nz](http://www.communityresearch.org.nz)

"The Centre of Excellence for Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector Research" is a national clearing house centred around a website launched last year that enables people to access research in, by, for and about this sector through searching key words or topics. The Clearing House is a way to disseminate research, connect researchers, promote collaboration and serve the beneficiaries of research. It will have local, national and international flavours and will be used by people who want to collaborate and share knowledge and other resources.

For more information contact Robyn Kamira the project manager via the website contacts form on [www.communityresearch.org.nz](http://www.communityresearch.org.nz)

## Hot Items

### World Class in Waitakere!

#### Friendship Centre Trust wins the Unitec Community and Volunteer Sector Best Practice Award at the Waitakere Business and Community Sector Awards

Waitakere Enterprise initiated this inaugural award in 2007 and Lisa Wooley, Director of the Trusts Community Services, was the proud recipient. If you know the work of the Friendship Centre Trust with their comprehensive range of social services and their wrap around empowering approach to ensuring social wellbeing for some of the more vulnerable people in our community you'll know how well deserved this award was.

Their work in social housing is outstanding and we *tautoko* their achievements.



Lisa Wooley



Lisa Wooley with Dr John Webster, CEO of Unitec and local MP, Lynne Pillay

### Pacific Board and Waitakere Ethnic Board (WEB) - New Offices

Both now have their own 'homes' with rooms where people can meet and also come together to get information – the Pacific Board in 22 Te Pai Place and the Waitakere Ethnic Board in the little arcade behind AceSpace, Railside Avenue (across the road from the Council).

The Pacific Board had a great celebratory evening launch of their new premises on 28 November 2007.

Anna Pala was recently voted in as the new WEB President with Tanya Sun as Deputy.



WEB Board meeting post 2007 election

## Upcoming Events (continued)

### Keeping Kids Safe Conference 2008 – 14 and 15 April 2008, TelstraClear Pacific Events Centre, Manukau City

A community-initiated, solutions focused gathering to examine best practice & new ideas to promote Thriving Children, Flourishing Families & Connected Communities

For further details contact [keep-kidssafe@psn.org.nz](mailto:keep-kidssafe@psn.org.nz)

### National Council of Social Services Conference 1-3 October (at Lincoln Green) Contact

*"Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."*

Goethe



Harry O'Rourke



Vijaya Vaidyanath

## New Name Proposed: Community Wellbeing Network or Network for Community Action?

Bold new moves afoot here – watch this space. At the end of 2007 the purpose and membership of the Community Wellbeing Network was reviewed with vigour. It was originally set up as a network of networks with mandated representatives to:

- Provide and promote a citywide voice and a holistic and intersectoral approach to city wellbeing issues, needs and planning
- Monitor the implementation of the *Wellbeing Strategy*
- Improve information flows about key issues, concerns and initiatives and ongoing networking, support and communication between each sector
- Progress local solutions to local problems as a result of information gathering and presentation of issues/ideas e.g. alliances for particular action, joint projects and initiatives

Due to the surge of different sector meetings and multitude of other community meetings its attendance and direction had somewhat languished in recent times. It did make a concerted attempt in 2007 with Project Vote to encourage more participation in the local body elections and its efforts along with the Council's may have helped contribute to Waitakere being one of only three New Zealand cities and the only large city to actually increase its vote, albeit by a modest 1.9% whereas voting actually went down in many cities.

However, changing times call for fresh approaches and it's been decided to open the meetings up to become a more inclusive network with the aim of making a difference for those most marginalized, putting people at the centre. The network will be a think-tank for socially innovative action. It was agreed to take 3-5 topics a year with a two-pronged concerted focus on gathering information/learning about the issue/area and then developing the action. The first topic will be on Young People – date pending but probably to be held the last Wednesday or Thursday of each month. For further information contact Cissy Rock, the convenor, ph 8352130 or email at [cissy@waitakerelaw.org.nz](mailto:cissy@waitakerelaw.org.nz)

## Would You Like A Volunteer?

Waitakere CEO Harry O'Rourke and the Directors' Group are offering staff the gift of time to celebrate the festive season. Waitakere City Council staff (full and part-time) have the option to donate one full working day during 2008, on full pay, to an approved charity or community organisation of their choice. "We are giving people the opportunity to do service. A gift of time can brighten up someone else's life or make a difference to an organisation that badly needs volunteers. With 1200 days' worth of time – one day for every employee – we expect to make a significant difference in the community," says Harry. If you would like a volunteer contact Liz Mahoney, Senior Public Affairs Adviser Phone: 836 8000 ext 8942 or 021 749 583 [liz.mahoney@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:liz.mahoney@waitakere.govt.nz)

This will be one of Harry O'Rourke's swan songs as he will be retiring from the Council this year. Harry, who joined the Council in 1972, held many senior roles becoming CEO in 2001. He has received many tributes for his long and outstanding service and will still retain some involvement with the Council as a director of Waitakere Properties.

A new CEO, Vijaya Vaidyanath, who starts in February is described by Mayor Bob Harvey as "one of the most respected officers in local government with impressive credentials and a truly visionary approach." She has previously been chief executive of Rodney District, is currently current chair of the Auckland CEO's Forum and is a Senior Executive Fellow of Harvard University.



Helen Jones

## Comings and Goings

2007 saw sad farewells to the leaders of two of our foremost community organisations, Helen Jones (WAVES) and Lisa Howard-Smith (Community Waitakere), both very active in the Wellbeing Project. They made a tremendous contribution to the Waitakere community and to the growth of their organizations. Helen has moved into a challenging new national position dealing with suicide incidents and Lisa to a role as an MSD Community Funding Advisor.



Lisa Howard-Smith

Zaif Khan ably managed WAVES for several months before moving on and her role is now being taken up by Tiaria Fletcher. Pat Watson has just been appointed as Community Waitakere's new manager. Fortunately, Tiaria and Pat both bring extensive community experience and a wealth of skills which will make them real assets to Waitakere.

Pat comes with great credentials. She's a "Westie from way back" and was actually the first secretary of WADCOSS. She initially started with grass roots child care community projects and then had a long management career in Barnardos. More recently she's held national positions with the SKIP parenting programme (in partnership with MSD), including a major role with its design and implementation. Pat is also known for successfully campaigning to establish the original Community Development Unit in the Waitakere City Council.



Pat Watson

### Tiaria Fletcher - Introduction

Ti hei te mauri ora

He mihi tuatahi ki te kaihanga o te Aoturoa, o te Ao Marama

Tena koe,

He mihi nui ki te maunga, ki te awa,

me te whenua o tenei rohe o te Iwi nei

Tena koutou

E nga rau rangatira ma, nga kuia, koroua, tuakana, tuahine me nga teina hoki

Kei te mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa

Ko Tarawera te maunga

Ko Tarawera te moana

Ko Te Arawa te waka

He uri o te Iwi Tuhourangi ki au

Ko Wikiriwhi te ingoa o toku hapu

He kaiwhakahaere ahau, ki a WAVES

Ko Tiaria Huirangi Fletcher toku ingoa



Tiaria Fletcher

Tena koutou, tena koutou tenei taku mahana ki a koutou, ki a tatou katoa

Tena koe

I come from a background of Social Work, Adult Education and Community Development and worked at the grassroots of Family Violence as a social worker in a variety of fields, along with teaching social work and issues around family violence at the tertiary level. I've lived in Waitakere for 14 years and also been involved in a range of community activities within Waitakere that have either directly or indirectly interfaced with family violence.

I'm looking forward to building relationships and working collaboratively to advance the kaupapa and vision for the elimination of Family Violence within our city. I know this is a big kaupapa...but I'm willing to be idealistic and (possibly naive) and say let's go for it anyway!

*He ora te Whakapiri, He mate te whakatariri.*

There is strength in unity, Defeat in anger.

*"Relationships are built and destroyed one conversation at a time."*

*Mehemea ka mahi tahi tāua tēra ano e taea*

If we work together we can succeed

*Suzanne Aubert*

For more information about Tamarack, go to [www.tamarackcommunities.ca](http://www.tamarackcommunities.ca)

#### TAMARACK TRIP PRESENTATION & FORUM FOR DISCUSSION

##### Back by popular demand!

Date: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

Time: 2-4.30pm

Venue: Manukau Room

Waitakere City Council

6 Henderson Valley Road

Henderson

RSVP:

10 Feb to:

[strategyadmin@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:strategyadmin@waitakere.govt.nz)

Or phone 836-8000 extn 8407 for catering purposes

*From Cissy and Megan...*

"What we found ....on the world stage of collaboration, Waitakere is doing ok!

BUT there are things we think we can learn from Canada and maybe do differently...

Here's some random thoughts and ideas we'd like to throw out for shared discussion as part of our report back:

- Growing local social innovators here in Waitakere
- How much collaboration is too much??
- "Panarchy" and lifecycles of collaboration
- "Complex" social issues and how we need to work differently
- Rethinking who and how we fund the work we do
- Engaging people by knocking on doors

We'd really love this session to be a "thinking" workshop about collaboration in Waitakere".

Those who attended the November session are also invited back at 3pm to continue the discussion of 'where to next'.

## Reflections from Megan & Cissy's Excellent Adventure

### "Reflection is Action"

In October the fearless Waitakere adventurers Cissy Rock and Megan Courtney set off for Canada along with 10 other kiwis joining an invited group of 90 Canadians at the Tamarack conference. Tamarack is a philanthropic trust which networks shared community development learning across communities. It has a small core of paid mentors and facilitators and a flagship programme *Vibrant Communities* focused on reducing poverty. The week before the conference, the Kiwi crew also got to visit some of the projects and leading collaboration thinkers in Canada. They returned with fascinating reflections on what they'd seen and heard with ideas to build on existing initiatives as well as new and exciting 'schemes, particularly to grow social innovation and flax roots leadership. Some of these we hope to see become reality...



### Cissy's Hot Hit List

- Resilience cycle (acknowledging when it is time to release trapped resources for new life)
- Notion of community owning community, not delivering for funders
- Vital Signs – news-sheets full of statistics and stories about key issues as a basis for advocacy and action
- 30 second elevator speeches – notion of selling ideas quickly
- Leadership programmes to proactively grow and support those working in the community and those people 'living the experience'
- Lunchtime seminars featuring five good ideas
- Video clips - put on web to explain ideas/practices such as protection orders
- A local People's Centre in Henderson! (see Queen's Common)

### Megan's Must Dos and Musings

- Document the journey so others can learn from you
- Small steps not giant leaps - It takes as long as it takes
- Problems are simple/complicated/complex and require different levels of operating and frameworks that are flexible and responsive – strategic planning doesn't solve it all, need an ecosystems approach
- Have champions willing to step off the kerb, catalysts who feel compelled
- Work on both micro and macro levels- policy frameworks to support flax-roots action, change happening concurrently at programme and policy level
- Social innovation can't wait for Wellington, political cycles or risk adverse cultures
- Social financing needed (from investors who appreciate the social returns as much as the economic returns)
- You don't have to collaborate on everything but you do have to communicate what you're doing
- If you want to reach and connect with people, go to them - door-knock, initiate and be at community events
- Build in evaluation that is user-focused

### Interesting projects with potential for transportable learnings here

#### *Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction*

This is an initiative co-convened by the Hamilton Community Foundation and the local council aimed at reducing poverty – involves a round table of 21 reps (including



Action for Neighbourhood Change — a Hamilton Roundtable initiative.

the editor of the local paper) and has a number of action streams focussing on new migrant issues, early childhood education, affordable housing and neighbourhood development. It's taken them two years to get themselves organised - good collaboration takes time. They have now decided to move from a deficit model (Vibrant Communities – Reducing Poverty) to a strengths-based vision – “A Great Place to Raise a Child”.

Hamilton has many similarities with our own Wellbeing Collaboration Model. See [www.caledoninst.org/Publications/PDF/638ENG.pdf](http://www.caledoninst.org/Publications/PDF/638ENG.pdf) for more.

Poverty roundtables are very active in Canada. They can now demonstrate taking thousands of families out of poverty. Hamilton reported significant improvements for 10,000 of the 16,000 families living in poverty due to innovative programmes. Key elements include: involvement of both those people experiencing the issue and business in solutions, policy and programme interventions such as benefit maximisation, calculating what is a 'liveable' wage, working with employers on lifting salary rates and having the media at the table.

### **Queen St Commons**

This is a local downtown community hub run by a community organisation and volunteers. It provides supported housing above the café/drop in centre, as well as being a place where people can find information and help with housing and employment issues etc, sell their local crafts and access a local food cooperative.

### **Toronto Community Housing**

Housing affordability issues are rife in Canada too. In Toronto social housing has been off-loaded from the federal govt to the city of Toronto – they have 165,000 people in 60,000 units and a seven year waiting list. They are looking at some large scale redevelopment projects which involve a range of rentals (i.e. some units at 30% of market rent, 80% of market rent, private ownership and shared equity). There was a considerable social development role for the city housing authority which included a \$1m Social Investment Fund for local tenants to initiate local projects. See [www.torontohousing.ca/](http://www.torontohousing.ca/)

A critical challenge in Canada which is very visible there (now occurring here) is the 'working poor' living in homeless shelters. Half of the 3400 people in Calgary night shelters were in paid employment. This had gone up a third each year since 2004.

### **CUAI**

CUAI is a partnership initiative in Calgary that aims to support and enhance work across and between eight domain groups by engaging broad bases of stakeholders in order to effect real and sustainable advances for urban Aboriginal people in Calgary. One of their key initiatives was a process for the domain or sector groups to sit around the table to rank proposals for new projects and programmes. These proposals then went to a collaborative funding table which worked out who was most appropriate to fund which bits of the project – so the proposal went to one table rather than to seven different funders independently. See [www.cuai.ca/](http://www.cuai.ca/)

### **Sage Centre – [www.sagecentre.org.ca](http://www.sagecentre.org.ca)**

The Sage Centre acts as an umbrella or incubator agency for new ideas and projects. They apply for funding on behalf of organisations and administer and manage grants, payroll systems, picking up the paperwork to allow projects to get on with their mahi.

### **Dovercourt Community Centre**

This is an innovative community led centre that's been going for 20 years providing a local wrap-around hub for all sorts of activities e.g. with multiple use spaces that can be used day and night, community meetings held free, funded by fees from the local swimming pool attached to the centre. The entrance is set up as a living room, they have local business sponsorship of a computer suite available for people, a café, an indoor playground and people can exhibit their artwork/crafts in exchange for giving lessons/courses at the centre. See <http://www.dovercourt.org/>



*"We think of our community as being the social space in which citizens in association do the work of problem-solving, celebration, consolation, and creation - that community, that space, in contrast to the space of the system with the box at the top and lots of little boxes at the bottom".*



Dovercourt Community Centre (above & below)



## Useful Websites

- Local Partnerships and Governance (LPG)  
Research: [www.lpg.org.nz](http://www.lpg.org.nz)
- For the latest census information on Waitakere City, its suburbs, employment, ethnicity, employment & education:  
[www.waitakere.govt.nz/AbtCit/ps/index.asp](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/AbtCit/ps/index.asp)
- Also available on the WCC Website is information on Community Grants:  
[www.waitakere.govt.nz/CnlSer/fn/index.asp](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/CnlSer/fn/index.asp)
- Trying to find that central or local Government agency or service on the web? Try:  
[www.govt.nz](http://www.govt.nz)
- Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector is  
[www.ocvs.govt.nz](http://www.ocvs.govt.nz)
- For really useful information and resources go to: Community Net Aotearoa  
[www.community.net.nz](http://www.community.net.nz)
- Waitakere Online. A portal to information about, living in, business in and visiting Waitakere.  
[www.waitakereonline.co.nz](http://www.waitakereonline.co.nz)
- NZ Federation of Voluntary Welfare Organisation  
[www.nzfvo.org.nz](http://www.nzfvo.org.nz)
- Asian Health Website  
[www.asianhealth.govt.nz](http://www.asianhealth.govt.nz)
- Health Promotion Forum:  
[www.hpforum.org.nz](http://www.hpforum.org.nz)
- Family violence information:  
[www.nzfc.org.nz](http://www.nzfc.org.nz)
- WAVES (Waitakere Anti-Violence Essential Services has a new website  
[www.waves.org.nz](http://www.waves.org.nz)
- Results Based Accountability - for practical information and fascinating case studies  
[www.raguide.org](http://www.raguide.org)

## Local Businesses Supporting Wellbeing Work

One of the challenges often issued and heard again at the Wellbeing Summit is the call to have the business sector at the table in our collaborative initiatives. There are many examples in the Tamarack projects and indeed within Waitakere already (Safe Waitakere projects, Massey Matters, Gateway school transition programme, Project Twin Streams, Kelston Pride, Zero Tolerance to Truancy) where this is happening. Most of our local businesses are small and there isn't always the direct relevance or capacity but where there is the opportunity they frequently come up trumps. Sponsorship is one area however, that businesses often find easier to engage in. We were the delighted recipients at the Summit of many great donations for prizes. We wanted to be able to give out spot prizes at the Summit in recognition of all the wonderful wellbeing work done passionately and tirelessly by so many people in Waitakere. The businesses we approached responded really favourably and were very happy to help reward our efforts.

These businesses deserve a big vote of thanks. We encourage you to support them also. It would be great too, if people could let us know about other positive partnerships or contributions involving businesses.

### WAITAKERE WELLBEING SUMMIT 2007 SPONSORS



***We would like to acknowledge the generosity of the following sponsors who donated the spot prizes for the Waitakere Community Wellbeing Summit.***

Aio Wira Centre, Waitakere

Contact: Di Davies, 8109396, email: [Mail@aiewira.org.nz](mailto:Mail@aiewira.org.nz)

Beauty Station

Contact: Alice Goh, 8383797, Unit 3, First Floor, 360 Great North Road,

Cantonese Opera Society of New Zealand

Annual fundraising operas

Contact Mrs Chan 8345 638

CraftWorld, Westgate City Centre

Fernhill Drive, Massey. Contact: Carl Dysthe, Phone: 8310277

Moka Restaurant

374 Great North Road, Henderson. Reservations: 836 2424

New Hong Kong Restaurant

32 Totara Ave, New Lynn. Reservations: 827 6833

Pacifica Mamas

Corban Estate, Henderson, Ph: 838 3205, Mob: 027 24599 44

ProfessionNail

Shop 322 Westfield Glenfield (444 8702), Shop 413 (849 5205) and 264 (815 2595) Westfield St Lukes, Shop 152 Westfield Pakuranga (576 8960), Shop 189 Westfield Manukau (262 0101), Shop 264 Westfield West City (978 6845)

Shortland Street

South Pacific Pictures

Soul - centre of the body and mind

18 Huia Road, Titirangi, Waitakere. For information about open days and the International Summer Schools, contact Wilhemeena 817 3051.; Web: [www.danz.org.nz/soul.php](http://www.danz.org.nz/soul.php)

Sushi Tomi Japanese Restaurant

Shop C-17, Westgate Shopping Centre. Reservations: 831 0239

West Wave Waitakere City Aquatic Centre

20 Alderman Drive Henderson, Waitakere City. Enquiries: 838 3706

Waitakere Tramline Society Inc

Booking for Rainforest Express: 818 4946

Whatipu Lodge, Whatipu Road, Whatipu

811 8860, Email: [whatipulodge@xtra.co.nz](mailto:whatipulodge@xtra.co.nz), Alison Anderson and Marnie Hunter

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**[www.violencefreewaitakere.org](http://www.violencefreewaitakere.org)**