

2.15 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLUS - ROTORUA

PGF Application – He Poutama Rangatahi		For Approval	
Applicant:	Rotorua Community Youth Centre Trust (RCYCT)	Pipedrive ID #	
Region	Bay of Plenty	PGF Funding Sought:	\$997,330
Region detail:	Rotorua	Total Project Value:	\$ <small>Commercial Information</small>
		Applicant co-funding:	\$ <small>Commercial Information</small> <small>Commercial Information</small>)
Entity Type:	Registered Charitable Trust	Funding Structure:	Grant
Entity Detail:	CC10463 Rotorua Community Youth Centre Trust (RCYCT) registered 14 June 2007 as a Charitable Trust.		

We recommend that the SROs:

- a) **Approve \$997,330** from the He Poutama Rangatahi (HPR) portion of the Provincial Growth Fund towards the Rotorua Community Youth Centre Trust's (RCYCT) Youth Employment Plus – Rotorua (YEP-R) programme.
- b) **Note** that RCYCT works collaboratively within a Rotorua-wide Community of Impact framework (Pūtaki Nui) alongside a number of other social service providers that collectively co-design seamless pathways to employment and wrap-around services to remove barriers for young people.
- c) **Note** that this HPR application reflects this approach by targeting young people aged 15-24 who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) and most at risk of long-term unemployment, and aims to support Commercial Information **young people into employment over two years.**
- d) **Note** that in 2018/19, RCYCT worked with over Commercial Information young people aged 15-24, partnered with over Commercial Information local employers and developed a youth employment digital platform which connected Commercial Information young people with sustained employment in relevant jobs. RCYCT intends to scale up this model with HPR funding.
- e) **Note** that the Rotorua Youth Centre is a 'one stop shop' centre (offering doctor, nursing, social work services and youth work programmes) that receives over Commercial Information visits per year and serves the city's highest needs areas, and that HRP funding would enable the Youth Centre to become a key youth employment hub for Rotorua.
- f) **Note** that supportive feedback has been received from the following Government agencies: the Tertiary Education Commission; Ministry of Social Development; and Te Puni Kōkiri.

Proposal:

YEP-R creates a Community of Impact framework (Pūtake Nui) approach, working collaboratively alongside other Rotorua-based social service providers to collectively co-design seamless pathways to employment and wrap-around services for 15-24 year olds. A team of trained navigators co-design with young people a tailored approach to support young people's transition to be work-ready, employed and the sustainability of employment. RCYCT will provide relationship management, co-ordination, facilitation ensuring a woven and seamless approach for young people.

Outcomes Sought:

Outcomes from the funding will result in :

- **Up to ^{Comme} young people placed into employment over 18 months**, with YEP-R providing ongoing in-work pastoral care to ensure employment is sustained
- **Up to ^{Comme} employers hiring participating young people** as a result of YEP-R's youth employment digital platform that connects young people with relevant employment opportunities.

Wider Benefits:

- 'One-stop shop' youth employment hub, that also provides holistic care – doctor, nurse, social services
- Multi-purpose facilities and multiple youth programmes and resources for young people to access
- Work in partnerships to facilitate and co-ordination 'Speed meets' with employers/young people.

	Response	PDU (HPR) Statement regarding achievability of target
Number of people expected to be targeted by the project annually (on average):	^{Comm} in first 12 months, ^{Commerc} by 18 months	This is achievable based on the results of the successful pilot.
Number of people expected to attain employment as a result of the project annually (on average):	^{Comm} in first 12 months, ^{Comm} by 18 months	This programme will rapidly build a work ready group of young people with connections to employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - proven successful pilot model - a youth facing facility in place - strong network of employers in place. - strong partnerships of working with others in Rotorua community.

Assessment against the PGF criteria:**Eligibility Criteria**

This application is eligible for HPR funding.

Productivity Potential

The project will:

- improve employability and upskilling of young people in the Rotorua and surrounding area.

Policy objectives

This project aligns with HPR principles by supporting rangatahi most at risk of long-term unemployment into sustained employment with intensive pastoral care. Specifically:

- it supports people who have a job but may not be reaching their full potential and could be up-skilled with some targeted support;
- people who don't currently have a job, so they can enter into and sustain employment; and
- targeted support for an employer (and an industry) who is upskilling local people which will create sustainable employment opportunities.

PGF Criteria	Assessment Commentary	Met (Yes/No/Partial)
Link with fund and government outcomes		
Aligns with relevant regional economic and employment plans and priorities, including any Māori development plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligns with regional economic plans and priorities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lifting capability and productivity in a priority sector for the region - Reducing the NEET rate amongst rangatahi • Reducing Maori unemployment by creating a pipeline into entry-level positions for local rangatahi 	Yes
Demonstrates potential to meet the current or future labour market skill needs of the region, including those resulting from PGF Tier 2 and 3 investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific focus on training and upskilling of local people, with priority on development of entry-level employees (aged 15-24 years). While MSD is working to meet the pre-employment needs in the industry – this programme seeks to address the employment gap in high need sectors in and around Rotorua. 	Yes
Reduces the rates of people not in employment, education and training, with an emphasis on Māori	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme is targeted at entry-level rangatahi aged 15-24, many of whom will currently be NEETs • Participants will be more likely to progress through into higher-skilled, higher-paid roles – creating space for more people to access entry-level roles in the future 	Yes
Increases local employment and earning potential, by supporting local people into local jobs, with an emphasis on sustainable employment outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotorua Youth Centre provides ease of navigation and access for young people to employment, in a supported and seamless way. • Rotorua Youth Centre provides ease of connections for employers to young people willing and work ready. 	Yes
Additionality – adds value by building on what is already there		
Addresses a gap in current service provision e.g. does not cover activities that are already funded for (unless funding is to up-scale or re-start, existing projects)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This programme is an up-scale of a proven pilot. • It is a seamless connect for young people and families. 	Yes
Demonstrates why third party funding, including other government agencies, cannot be	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Information 	Yes

used to address the current gap in service provision		
Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks		
Alignment with regional priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant's project aligns with local and regional employment and skills gaps. 	Yes
Support from local employers, central and local government, and governance groups (inc. Councils, Iwi/Hapu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support letters has been provided from Rotorua Mayor, Rotorua Chamber of Commerce, Rotorua EDA, Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, Kapenga M Trust, Moving Mountains, Dress for Success, InfraCore Ltd, Sudima Lake Rotorua, 3rd Place Cafe 	Yes
Governance, risk management and project execution		
Robust project management and governance systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant been existence since 2003. They have a highly skilled and well connected Board of Trustees inclusive of Iwi, business sector, local government, community sector and youth reps on the Board. 	Yes
Demonstrates the capacity and technical capabilities to effectively implement the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCYCT deliver other contracts for other government and community groups <small>Commercial Information</small> <small>Commercial Information</small> <small>Commercial Information</small> 	Yes
Risk management approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An appropriate risk management approach for this proposal has been identified. 	Yes
Future ownership / operational management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable 	Yes

Funding Arrangements

Appropriate milestones and deliverables will be put in place with regular monitoring with payments made at appropriate time frames. It is expected that the initial payment will be for project initiation costs.

Due Diligence and Ownership

Due Diligence has been undertaken. No key findings were identified or areas for further Due Diligence.

Risk Assessment

Type of risk	Risk description	Mitigations	Risk Rating L/M/H
Numbers of Young people	Inability to attract number of young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently ^{Commercial I} within online platform • Large numbers of NEETS in Rotorua • Youth friendly environment • MOU's in place with partner organisations • Sound planning • Effective partnerships in place 	low
Numbers Employers	Inability to attract appropriate employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently ^{Comme} employers online platform • Planned approach to work with employers • Pūtaki Nui using 'eco system' • Strong relationships with Industry, businesses, council, chamber of commerce, Rotorua EDA 	low
Funds	Finance and funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good planning and programme management • Sound financial management and tracking • Ensure milestones are meet. 	low
Staff	Staff recruitment and retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good recruitment and retention strategies • Clear job descriptions • Balanced caseloads • Training and regular support for staff in place. • Positive work environment • Contingency planning 	low

Consultation undertaken or implications:

Regional Governance Group View:

This application has been to the Bay of Plenty cross-agency government group who are strongly supportive of this place-based youth hub which has strong community linkages and will deliver good employment outcomes.

Central Government Agency Views:

The Tertiary Education Commission is supportive of this application.

Te Puni Kōkiri provided feedback on the application as follows:

Proposal show strong community and employer support and existing network of employers. Strong governance and links with Māori, including in governance roles. The eco-system community of action supports longer term sustainable outcomes. This proposal seeks to scale up the overall model tested in 2018/19 and incorporate the learnings gained. This supports further success of the proposal.

The Ministry of Social Development provided feedback on the application as follows:

We found this programme comprehensive, youth centric and collaborative, and endorse this application.

Supporting proposal:

Yes

Appendices:

Yes – Application and supporting letters Withheld - Commercial Information

Author of paper:

Carol Ngawati