



**COMMUNITY
WAIKATO**

"Supporting strong communities"
Hei tautoko kia tuu pakari ai ngaa haapori

New charitable funder announced in the Waikato

Immediate Release

Embargoed until 5pm, 29 July 2015

The Len Reynolds Trust was announced today at the Community Waikato Rising to the Challenge Conference and will benefit community development, social service, health and environmental community organisations in providing another source of funding.

The Len Reynolds Trust will build partnerships with local Waikato communities by supporting education, environment, and social wellbeing. This Trust will be open to receive applications for funding later this year, and approximately \$300,000 will be available to distribute this year. Community Waikato has been appointed as the funding manager, and will manage fund distribution. Eligible charities can apply for up to \$8000 annually.

Len Reynolds and his wife Ada spent a great part of their lives in the Waikato region where Len pioneered the art of turning peat land into productive dairy farms by the generous application of lime and the innovative use of old 44 gallon drums for bridging and drainage. A hard worker, Len had a cautious and frugal approach and this was the secret to his success. He established the Len Reynolds Trust with his wife in 1966. The Len Reynolds Trust Board has recently formalised the fund distribution process of the Trust so they are able to distribute funds in Len's memory.

Andrea Goble, CE at Community Waikato says that this new fund is very exciting for the region.

"Community based social services have to meet increasing demand for services and they are struggling to meet this demand. These organisations offer vital services but suffer from major under-resourcing. It is therefore fantastic that the region has another philanthropic funding source."

The organisations that are eligible to apply for funding are those that provide services in one or more of the following areas: Conservation and environment; community services and development; families; community based health services.

Information about eligibility and application dates can be found at www.communitywaikato.org.nz

Ends

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