

Memo

Date: 29/05/2025

From: Julie Pearce – Community Funding Advisor

To: John Filsell – Head of Community Support & Partnership

Cc: Gary Watson – Manager Community & Partnerships

Reference: 25/1077828

2024/25 DRF Metropolitan Staff Panel Recommendation

1. Purpose of this Memo Te take o tēnei Pānui

1.1 The purpose of the memo is to seek approval from the Head of Community Support and Partnerships for the recommendations of the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund Staff Panel regarding the applications listed below.

Discretionary Response Fund

Organisation	Project Name	Amount Requested	Panel
			Recommended
Progressing Sessions	Washington Way Bowl	\$12,217	\$5,000
	Jame		
Speed Freaks	Multicultural Recreation	\$3,000	\$3,000
Charitable Trust	Community Centre Rental		
Societa Dante Alighieri	Italian children playgroup	\$2,860	\$2,000
di Christchurch			
Incorporated			
Ara Taiohi Incorporated	Involve 2025	\$62,600	\$17,600
Canterbury Kia Ora	Multilingual Civic	\$11,500	\$8,500
Academy Trust	engagement video series		
	for Christchurch		
	Communities		

Place Partnership Fund

Organisation	Project Name	Amount Requested	Panel Recommended
Watch this Space	Upper Riccarton War	\$15,000	\$15,000
	Memorial Library Mural		
Te Kura O Huriawa	Te Kura O Huriawa	\$6,000	\$2,500
Thorrington	Thorrington Mural		
Little River Wairewa	Banks Peninsula Walking	\$5,000	\$5,000
Community Trust	Festival		



2. Background Te Horopaki

- 2.1 Please see attached Decision Matrix for information.
- 2.2 There is 1 application over \$15,001 to be considered by Council at their meeting of 18th June 2025 with a recommendation totalling \$17,600 listed below. See the attached decision matrix for information.

Organisation	Project Name	Amount Requested	Panel
			Recommended
Ara Taiohi Incorporated	Involve 2025	\$62,600	\$17,600

- 2.3 Applications to the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund are first considered and discussed by the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund Staff Panel before a recommendation is put to the Head of the Community Support and Partnerships Unit for them to decide under delegation.
- 2.4 These applications were considered by the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund Staff Panel by way of a meeting held on 29th May 2025.
- 2.5 The members of the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund Staff Panel were all in agreement with the staff recommendations.

3. Delegation Authority Decision Required

3.1 Seeking approval of the Head of the Community Support and Partnerships Unit to approve the recommendations of the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund Panel in relation to 4 of the 5 total applications listed above for the 2025/26 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund, 3 applications listed above for the 2025/26 Place Partnership Fund.

4. Delegation Authority

4.1 Part B - Sub Part 2 - Grants.

Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund

4.2 The authority to approve grants from the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund where the application is up to and including \$15,000 – HCS (Head of Community Support and Partnerships).

Place Partnership Fund

4.3 The authority to approve grants from the Place Partnership Fund where the application is up to and including \$15,000 – HCS (Head of Community Support and Partnerships).

5. Financial Information He mohiohio ahumoni

5.1 In 2025/26, the total budget available in the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund is \$484,802. At the time of writing, the balance of the Fund is as detailed below.

Total Budget 2025/26	Granted To Date	Amount Returned	Available for allocation	Balance if Staff Recommendations adopted
\$484,802	\$447,540	\$0	\$37,262	\$1,162

5.2 In 2025/26, the total budget available in the Place Partnership Fund is \$142,000. At the time of writing, the balance of the Fund is as detailed below.



Total Budget 2025/26	Granted To Date	Amount Returned	Available for allocation	Balance if Staff Recommendations adopted
\$142,000	\$115,186	\$0	\$26,814	\$4,314

6. Metropolitan DRF Staff Panel Recommendations Ngā Tūtohu mā te Paewhiri o te Pūtea Kōwhiti ā-Tāone

It is recommended that the Head of the Community Support and Partnerships Unit on behalf of the Council:

- 1. makes a grant of \$5,000 from the 2025/26 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund to Progressing Sessions towards Washington Way Bowl Jam
- 2. makes a grant of \$3,000 from the 2025/26 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund to Speed Freaks Charitable Trust towards Multicultural Recreation Community Centre Rental.
- 3. makes a grant of \$2,000 from the 2025/26 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund to Societa Dante Alighieri di Christchurch Incorporated towards Italian children playgroup.
- 4. makes a grant of \$8,500 from the 2025/26 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund to Canterbury Kia Ora Academy Trust towards Multilingual Civic engagement video series for Christchurch communities.
- 5. makes a grant of \$15,000 from the 2025/26 Place Partnership Fund to Watch this Space towards Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library Mural.
- 6. makes a grant of \$2,500 from the 2025/26 Place Partnership Fund to Te Kura O Huriawa Thorrington towards Te Kura O Huriawa Thorrington Mural.
- 7. makes a grant of \$5,000 from the 2025/26 Place Partnership Fund to Little River Wairewa Community Trust towards Banks Peninsula Walking Festival.

Attachments Ngā Tāpirihanga

No.	Title	Reference
Α	DRF May 2025 matrix	25/1078029
В	PPF May 2025 matrix	25/1078030
С	DRF PPF may 2025 panel notes	25/1078031
D	DRF PPF May 2025 panel summary	25/1078032

Signatories Ngā Kaiwaitohu

Author	Julie Pearce - Community Funding Advisor
Approved By Gary Watson - Manager Community Partnerships	
	John Filsell - Head of Community Support and Partnerships



Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Ara Taiohi Incorporated Funding History Nil	Involve 2025 INVOLVE, Aotearoa's largest national youth development conference, will be hosted in Ōtautahi in 2025, the first time it's been in the South Island since 2006. This flagship event brings together over 1,000 youth workers and those working across the wider youth development sector for two days of keynote speeches, workshops and rich networking korero. The event aims to strengthen, uplift, and continue the professionalisation of the sector so that it can better serve our rangatahi.	Total Cost: \$459,800.00 Requested Amount: \$62,600.00 14% percentage requested Other Sources of Funding Wayne Francis Charitable Trust — Confirmed (\$50,000.00) Clare Foundation - Confirmed (Amount to be confirmed) Ministry of Youth Development - To be confirmed (\$20,000.00) Contribution Sought Towards: Rent / Venue Hire - Venue \$20,000.00 Administration - Event management \$20,000.00 Equipment and Materials - Photography, design, printing \$5,000.00 Hui, Conferences and Meetings - Local Rōpū \$5,000.00 Hui, Conferences and Meetings - Social & cultural programme \$2,000.00 Volunteer Recognition - Keynotes, MC, speakers & gifts \$5,600.00	Recommended Amount \$17,600.00 That the Council makes a grant of \$17,600.00 from its 2024/25 Citywide Discretionary Response Fund to Ara Taiohi Incorporated towards Involve 2025 for Salaries and wages for Kaimahi and Contractors; Hui, Conferences and Meetings for local Rōpū; Hui, Conferences and Meeting for Social and cultural programme; and for Volunteer Recognition for Keynotes, MC, speakers and gifts.	1

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

The conference has 4 key aims: Professional Development, Networking (knowing who else is doing the mahi, and them knowing you), Building Connections (working in ways outside of silo thinking, thinking collaboratively etc, knowing who your neighbours are), and Celebrating the Sector. You can read more here: https://involve.org.nz/about

Staff Assessment

INVOLVE 2025 is organised by Ara Taiohi, the peak body for youth development in Aotearoa. Ara Taiohi is well-respected across the sector and has extensive experience delivering INVOLVE as a biannual national conference.

This year's theme, Kotahitanga, emphasises unity and collaboration—bringing together efforts across the sector to better support young people. This aligns strongly with Christchurch City Council's Strengthening Communities Together Strategy, which encourages cross-sector collaboration and connected communities.

The 2025 event is expected to attract over 1,000 youth workers, young people, professionals, and volunteers. Hosting INVOLVE in Ōtautahi Christchurch is a strategic decision that acknowledges the costs and logistical barriers South Island groups have faced in attending past events held in the North Island. A local advisory group of Christchurch-based youth workers and professionals is supporting the planning, ensuring the event is grounded in the local context. Ara Taiohi is also working closely with Council staff to explore ways to welcome attendees and showcase the city through its food, culture, and attractions.

Beyond the event itself, INVOLVE 2025 seeks to build the capability, resilience, and connectedness of the youth development workforce—leading to stronger, more responsive support for rangatahi.

Ara Taiohi initially proposed a \$100,000 grant from Council. However, through innovation, rescoping, and by securing additional sources of funding and in-kind support, they have successfully scaled the proposal down to \$62,000.

Rationale for staff recommendation:

This is a Priority 1 recommendation due to the project's significant reach—directly supporting over 1,000 youth development professionals and indirectly improving outcomes for young people across Christchurch and Aotearoa.

The project contributes to the Strengthening Communities Together Strategy, particularly the People pillar, by providing lifelong learning opportunities that strengthen the sector's ability to respond to evolving youth needs—especially in the context of a youth mental health crisis, social media pressures, and socio-economic challenges.

Hosting INVOLVE in Christchurch reduces travel and logistical barriers for the local sector and brings a high number of visitors to city.

Through strategic rescoping and leveraging co-funding and in-kind contributions, Ara Taiohi has effectively reduced their original request —from \$100,000 to \$62,000— showing flexibility and a strong commitment to delivering value for investment.

Request Number: DRF24/25_083CW



Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Societa' Dante Alighieri di Christchurch Incorporated Funding History Nil	Dante Alighieri Society on Christchurch is seeking funding to support the Italian playgroup for Italian children and their whanau. The playgroup is an opportunity for Italian children to retain their language and culture through play. The society is seeking funding towards venue hire and contribution for teacher's wages.	Total Cost: \$10,060.00 Requested Amount: \$2,860.00 28% percentage requested Other Sources of Funding Rata Foundation - for the last 2 years, but unfortunately this year we received only \$5000, which is half of what we need to run the programme for one year. I received a call from Rata explaining that the small fund allowed did not reflect at all the validity of our project, but it was due to the enormous amount of requests Rata received his year. Contribution Sought Towards: Rent / Venue Hire - hire hall x 40 weeks \$1,360.00 Salaries and Wages - Part Payment for 1 teacher \$1,500.00	Recommended Amount \$2,000.00 That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$2,000.00 from its 2024/25 Citywide Discretionary Response Fund to Societa' Dante Alighieri di Christchurch Incorporated towards Italian children playgroup.	2

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

- Children will grow by learning and sharing with their friends and whanau the Italian language and culture.
- Reduce isolation among families who share a common origin and live in a country outside of Italy.
- 3. Foster a stronger sense of Identity and belonging.

Staff Assessmen

La Società Dante Alighieri is an international organisation dedicated to the promotion of the Italian language and culture. Headquartered in Rome, with over 500 branches worldwide, it serves as a crucial link to Italy's rich heritage and traditions. The Christchurch branch aims to preserve and promote the Italian language and culture, strengthen the ties between Italian expatriates and their homeland, and foster a greater appreciation of Italy among Cantabrians.

La Società is seeking funding to support the second year of the Italian Playgroup, which provides Italian children with the opportunity to play, practise, learn, sing, and retain their Italian language and culture in a fun atmosphere with their peers, beyond the limited family environment. The playgroup brings together young Italian and/or mixed families with young children, fostering a sense of belonging to the wider Italian community in Ōtautahi. La Società is requesting funds to remove economic barriers for many young families experiencing hardship and to alleviate isolation, including for elderly grandparents who do not speak English.

The first year of the playgroup was fully funded by the Rata Foundation. This year, Rata's support was limited due to the high number of funding applications received. Parents are also contributing to the project, with fees of \$30 per term and \$50 for two children. The playgroup takes place at the MRCC every Saturday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and it is attended by approximately 16 children plus caregivers.

Rationale for staff recommendation:

The project aligns with the Multicultural Strategy, Goal 4, by promoting the preservation of cultures and languages, and with the SCT Strategy, Pillar 1, Objectives 1.3, 1.7, and 1.5.

Maintaining the mother tongue offers bilingual children numerous benefits, including enhanced cognitive abilities, improved academic performance, and a stronger sense of cultural identity. Furthermore, retaining their mother tongue helps children maintain a strong connection to their cultural heritage, fostering a sense of identity and belonging. These advantages align well with the goals of reducing loneliness and isolation through intergenerational approaches, as they help children communicate more effectively with family members, particularly grandparents who do not speak English, and their community, thereby strengthening social bonds and reducing feelings of isolation.

The recommendation takes into account the community's ability to contribute and financially support the initiative with their own resources.

Request Number: DRF24/25_102CW

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Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Progression Sessions Funding History Nil	Washington Way Bowl Jam is focusing on becoming the south islands top bowl competition and a key event in New Zealand's skateboarding calendar. Endorsed and sponsored by Skateboarding New Zealand using official judging criteria that can give the South Island rankings and prepare local talent for national events. By ensuring accessibility for all aspiring skaters in Ōtautahi, help them prepare for competitions locally, nationally, internationally and prepare local talent for 2028 Olympic qualifiers events.	Total Cost: \$16,542.00 Requested Amount: \$12,217.00 74% percentage requested Other Sources of Funding We are in the process of seeking additional sponsorship and funding. As part of this Skateboarding NZ (governing body) Sponsorship coordinator is supporting us. See attached list of our current potential sponsors. Contribution Sought Towards: St Johns Ambulance \$1,392.00 Volunteer Recognition - Event host, judges, videographer \$1,700.00 Administration - Event/Promotional material \$1,625.00 Rent / Venue Hire - Temporary Fencing \$2,000.00 Live stream/broadcasting \$5,500.00	Recommended Amount \$5,000.00 That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$5,000.00 from its 2024/25 Citywide Discretionary Response Fund to Progression Sessions towards Washington Way Bowl Jam.	2

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

The Washington Way Bowl Jam key outcomes are for the Ōtautahi Christchurch skateboarding community and the wider national scene. It will provide a crucial platform for Christchurch's up-and-coming youth to grow, showcase their talent in competition, and help bridge the gap in opportunities for South Island skaters. A competition of national calibre will attract top-tier skateboarders from across New Zealand, positioning Christchurch as a central hub for skateboarding in Aotearoa.

This high-level event comes at a pivotal time, as the coaching platform Progression Sessions development team recently achieved major success at the NZ Nationals (Mount Maunganui) and the international Mangawhai Bowl Bash, despite no prior South Island competitions for preparation.

Highlights:

- Freddie Baker, winning U13 National Park title.
- Melu Blackburn, 2nd in Open Women's Park and Vert Nationals, placed 6th overall and 2nd New Zealander at Mangawhai.

Strong showings also from Phoebe Chatterton, Holly Reynolds, James and Cooper Mulder, Jake Harris and Hayden Collins, all Progression Session skaters from Ōtautahi Christchurch.

A significant aspect of this success is the growing strength of women's skateboarding in Christchurch, with Progression Sessions placing a strong focus on empowering female skateboarders. This commitment has led to impressive performances from Progression Sessions female skaters competitive presence at both events. The Washington Way Bowl Jam aims to build on this momentum by offering a premier local event that fosters talent, inspires youth, and solidifies Christchurch's status on New Zealand's skateboarding calendar.

Staff Assessment

The organisers have applied to the DRF as funding for the event is time sensitive. If they have to wait for approval of a funding request from the Strengthening Communities Fund, they will not be able to commit to holding the event

Recommend that the DRF funds the following: St Johns: \$1392.00

Fencing: \$2000.00 Live Stream/Broadcast: \$2500.00

Total: \$5892.00

Rationale for staff recommendation:

This event aligns with the CCC Strategic Framework, especially the intergenerational vision of being open to new ideas, new investment and new ways of doing things. This is an opportunity for the CCC to contribute to a new event that caters for the city's youth.

The event also aligns with the RSE Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy Priority Areas:

Participation, namely meeting the needs of RSE Priority Populations i.e. Tamariki, Rangatahi, Women and Girls coupled with an opportunity to recognise the sporting success of local athletes.

Partnership between the event organisers, Progression Sessions, Skateboarding NZ and CCC.

People: supporting and enhancing volunteer opportunities within the sport and recreation sector. Places: the event provides a venue for national competition and aligns with Skateboarding NZ's competition calendar

Request Number: DRF24/25_107CW

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Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Speed Freaks Charitable Trust Funding History 2023/24 \$7,500 (Programme delivery & volunteer support) SCF M	Multicultural Recreation Community Centre Rental Speed Freaks (SF) supports recovery from addition and mental distress through running, walking and connection. Due to the rapid expansion of the programme, SF's seek funding for additional office space that can used by staff as overflow and a central base. They currently rent Richmond Cottage from Council and require a room in the Multicultural Centre for Admin and Peer Support staff to provide a base in Hagley Park which is used for programme groups.	Total Cost: \$3,000.00 Requested Amount: \$3,000.00 100% percentage requested Other Sources of Funding N/A Contribution Sought Towards: Rent / Venue Hire - Venue rent x 5 months \$3,000.00	Recommended Amount \$3,000.00 That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$3,000.00 from its 2024/25 Citywide Discretionary Response Fund to Speed Freaks Charitable Trust towards Multicultural Recreation Community Centre Rental.	1

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

- 1. Much needed Office Space for our growing staff team. To provide overflow office space for Staff including Peer Support to utilise for operational oversight of our programme. Speed Freak's programmes are available to alcohol and other drug treatment providers, mental health services, and the community. Hagley Park is a strong hold for many of our groups including Tuesday open Community session, Salvation Army Bridge programme twice weekly, Odyssey House weekly, Wahine Group weekly, Rangatahi session fortnightly. Additionally, Speed Freaks is a strategic partner with parkrun NZ and central to the parkrun main Saturday group being held at Hagley Park.
- Increased support for whaiora. Having staff onsite at Hagley Park provides additional resource for our volunteer coaches and Peer Support staff when working with vulnerable adults.
- Increased use of Hagley Park and its facilities Speed Freaks supports our whaiora to feel
 part of their community encouraging access to the range of resources available through the
 Christchurch City Council

Staff Assessment

Speed Freaks, started in 2021, provides connection, participation and inclusion through the vehicle of walking and running. The kaupapa is to increase health, wellbeing and connection by supporting recovery from addiction and mental distress through the vehicle of running. The service is provided through peer mentors and community running coaches who are matched with the group/ service. For example, emergency housing providers, street cafes, treatment providers.

Vulnerable populations, using substances or those at risk of problematic use have increased likelihood of acute drug harm. The lockdowns of COVID and resulting changing housing situations have increased isolation and disconnection of these groups. Additionally, individuals leaving services and establishing themselves in the community are also vulnerable to relapse without strong connection and reintegration plans. These marginalised groups face stigma and discrimination in daily life and multiple barriers to participating in society. Māori also experience significantly higher rates of mental illness, higher rates of suicide and greater prevalence of addictions. The prevalence of mental distress among Māori is almost 50% higher than among non-Māori'. Connection is an important part of sustained recovery. SF support increased health and wellbeing, participation, and connection which leads to growing self-efficacy and positively navigating reintegration.

The current number of staff is 6, having grown from 3 in the past 18 months. In 2022/23 year, they had 331 sessions with 1113 runners and 713 walkers and in 2023/24 the numbers were 475 sessions, 1504 runners and 1742 walkers. The 2024/25 year has seen a 20% growth in all areas of the programme and in the number of additional organisations that they partner with.

This grant will cover the rent for 5 months until they can source other funds.

Rationale for staff recommendation:

The team has outgrown the Richmond Cottage and require more space for office workers and groups. The Multicultural Centre has an office available that suits their need that they would like to take up immediately.

The rationale for the staff recommendation is:

- The numbers of Speedfreaks is growing and the need for additional office space across the city in appropriate locations is vital to the organisation at this time.
- Being a Speed Freak is received positively by local communities, who witness courage and commitment. This programme supports a large number of people vulnerable to inactivity and isolation, who are supported to run/walk each week in a low-cost programme supported by mainly by volunteers.
- This application aligns with the Strengthening Communities Together Strategy and the Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy.

Request Number: DRF24/25_110CW

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Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Canterbury Kia Ora Academy Trust	Multilingual Civic Engagement Video Series for Christchurch Communities	Total Cost: \$11,500.00 Requested Amount: \$11,500.00	Recommended Amount \$8,500.00	1
Funding History 2024/24 \$2,000 (Community Connection & Empowerment Programme) SCF HHR 2024/25 \$10,000 (Strengthening Community) SCF M	Kia ora Academy seeks funding to create a multilingual series of informative videos and podcasts supporting newcomers and wider Christchurch communities. Covering topics such as voting, digital safety, and settlement resources, the project promotes civic participation, election readiness, and online security. Developed with expert input, professionally translated, and voiced by native speakers, the content ensures cultural relevance and accessibility, fostering inclusion, awareness, and confident engagement in New Zealand's democratic and digital life.	100% percentage requested Other Sources of Funding We don't have any pending application for this project Contribution Sought Towards: Volunteer Expenses - Interpreter \$2,000.00 Volunteer Expenses - Voice recording \$1,000.00 Volunteer Expenses - Generate 40 videos \$4,000.00 Administration - Coordinator \$4,000.00 Equipment and Materials - Software & Subscription \$500.00	That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$8,500.00 from its 2024/25 Citywide Discretionary Response Fund to Canterbury Kia Ora Academy Trust towards Multilingual Civic Engagement Video Series for Christchurch Communities.	

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

1. Empower informed participation in democratic processes:

By delivering clear and culturally relevant information about how voting works in New Zealand, this project aims to empower ethnic communities, newcomers, and youth to participate confidently in local and national elections. Understanding their rights and the voting process will help build a stronger sense of belonging and civic responsibility.

2. Promote digital safety and online awareness:

Many individuals—particularly newcomers and seniors—are vulnerable to online scams and misinformation. Our videos and podcasts will cover practical digital security topics such as identifying phishing scams, protecting personal information, and using secure platforms. These resources will enhance participants' ability to navigate digital spaces safely.

3. Strengthen community inclusion and access to essential information:

The series will provide important information about New Zealand systems and services, including healthcare, tenancy, and legal rights, in multiple languages. This ensures that people who may face language barriers can still access the knowledge they need to live independently and confidently. By involving community members in content creation and voiceovers, the project also fosters collaboration, representation, and pride within communities.

Ultimately, this project supports long-term integration, social inclusion, and informed decision-making across Christchurch's diverse population.

Staff Assessment

Established in 2021, Canterbury Kia Ora Academy is dedicated to supporting community well-being and promoting ethnic cultures across New Zealand through music, sport, arts, entertainment, and educational workshops. Originally focused on Iranian and Afghan communities, the Academy has since expanded its mission to embrace all newcomers. Through a regular programme of weekly, fortnightly, and monthly webinars, workshops, and events, it aims to foster connections between communities and encourage social integration.

This project directly addresses a relevant gap (also recently identified by the Welcoming Communities Coordinator) concerning equitable access to information and resources for newcomers. By producing multilingual videos and podcasts, the initiative ensures vital content is accessible to all, regardless of language barriers. It is a collaborative community led effort involving NGOs such as Canterbury Kia Ora Academy, Interpreting New Zealand, CLING, ethnic and cultural groups, community leaders, and representatives of former refugee communities. Agencies such as the Electoral Commission will also contribute, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the content. The videos will be generated using AI, with a culturally appropriate approach to ensure relevance and sensitivity across communities. Messages will be delivered in eight different languages—excluding English—and will include subtitles to enhance accessibility. Language selection will be based on identified community needs rather than solely on the number of migrants from specific ethnic or linguistic backgrounds in Christchurch, ensuring the content reaches those who need it most.

Rationale for staff recommendation:

The request is recommended as a Priority One due to its strong alignment with Council outcomes and priorities, as well as the depth and focus of the project.

- The project strongly aligns with Council priorities, particularly the Participation and Belonging pillar, and supports Goal 2 of the Multicultural Strategy: equitable access to services and resources.
- It directly addresses a critical gap in access to information for newcomers, as identified by the Welcoming Communities Coordinator.
- The initiative promotes civic participation, digital inclusion, and social integration through accessible, multilingual content.
- Kia Ora Academy has demonstrated capability and credibility, with the technological expertise, skilled personnel, and strong partnerships required to deliver the project effectively.
- The project is a collaborative, community-led effort, involving NGOs, ethnic and cultural groups, community leaders, and agencies

Request Number: DRF24/25_115CW

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2024/25 PLACE PARTNERSHIP FUND DECISION MATRIX

Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Funding History 2023/24 \$13,975.00 (Spotlight - Urban Art Project) PPF 2023/24 \$25,000.00 (Wages for Creative Director) SCF M 2022/23 \$14,950.00 (Operational Costs - Wages for Creative Director) DRF M	Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library Mural The vacant site at 372 Riccarton Road, formerly home to the Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library, is being redeveloped by the Christchurch City Council Parks Team as a pocket park. While the pocket park will see landscaping and the addition of seating and signage, the large wall to the western side was not included in the Parks scope. At the request of the Parks team, the applicant seeks to complete a site-specific mural to add a creative story-telling element and enlivening presence to the rejuvenated space, responding to the history of the setting. The mural will be created by local artist Dycpher, who will work with emerging local artist Drows, providing a chance for mentorship and technical development, increasing the experience of local artists to execute complex projects.	Total Cost \$33,450.00 Requested Amount \$15,000.00 44% requested Other Sources of Funding Watch This Space will contribute \$6,000, while also providing in-kind support in project management. The Christchurch City Council Parks Team have also agreed to cover hire of heights access. Dcypher, as the lead artist, has also agreed to provide in-kind support for a significant portion of the wall. Contribution Sought Towards:	Recommended Amount \$15,000.00 That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$15,000.00 from its 2024/25 Place Partnership Fund to Watch This Space Trust towards Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library Mural.	1
		Lead artist fee & design fee \$15,000.00		

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

A new mural to complement a Parks 'pocket park' in Upper Riccarton, creating vibrancy and deterring vandalism

The opportunity for an established street artist to mentor an emerging street artist

Staff Assessment

The Council/Parks was gifted the land for the former War Memorial Museum. Transforming this site into a public place/pocket park falls outside the Parks' budgeted scope. However, Parks saw the importance of this site and project and pulled together a small budget to transform the vacant site into a pocket park. Funding constraints meant there was no budget available for a mural

The Community Board has resolved (HHRB/2024/00112) to accept the park design, name the park 'Upper Riccarton War memorial Park' and to endorse Watch This Space to apply for funding for the mural.

Watch This Space was granted LTP funding, which they are managing with ARCC. This budget has been fully allocated and/or committed to a programme of works which includes the Flare Festival. Arts are supportive of this application and provided advice regarding WTS' grant agreement with the Council for this funding. There is nothing in that agreement that excludes them from applying to the Council for additional projects outside their programme.

Watch This Space have worked with the Arts Team to develop a brief. The Brief will be to create a work that is site-specific, and draws on the site's history, with input from community stakeholders and the Parks Team, ensuring the work honours the significance of the setting.

Other funds/income

- \$6k Watch This Space support
- -\$3k Watch This Space PM in-kind
- \$1.45k Parks contribution
- \$8k artist in-kind

Rationale for staff recommendation:

Incorporating a mural by a respected local street artist will deter tagging and vandalism.

Transformation of a vacant site through the addition of a high-quality, visually striking artwork, ensuring the location becomes a point of interest for the public audience, drawing people into the space and encouraging reflection.

Create a work of art that will explore and reflect the local and wider history of the site – specifically the former library building, strengthening the sense of connection to the area's story. This will be achieved through the development process, which will utilise input and discussion with local community and stakeholders.

Provide a development opportunity for an emerging local artist to work on a complex, specific mural style with an experienced artist, increasing local capability through mentorship. The mural will be an important element of the site's redevelopment, both in attracting public into the space and by illuminating and recognising the important history of the site.

A mural is strategic investment in the park's long-term maintenance of the site, reducing potential tagging maintenance costs

Request Number: PPF_2024/25_00031

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2024/25 PLACE PARTNERSHIP FUND DECISION MATRIX

Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Te Kura O Huriawa Thorrington Funding History Nil	Te Kura o Huriawa Thorrington Mural Te Kura o Huriawa Thorrington is undertaking a whole-school inquiry into identity, culminating in a large-scale public mural facing Colombo Street. This project, titled "Ko wai tātau?" (Who are we?), aims to foster a strong sense of belonging, pride, and cultural awareness among students and the wider school community. The mural will be created by Christchurch artist Wongi Wilson. The design will be directly shaped by student voice, as learners explore the school's past, present, and future through classroom inquiry and creative expression. Student-generated artworks will be exhibited during Matariki, engaging whānau and the wider community. Student leaders will collaborate with Wongi to translate these ideas into a mural design. The project is grounded in the school's cultural narrative, gifted by Ngāi Tūāhuriri in 2019, which honours the Ōpāwaho (Heathcote River) and its role in the school's identity. Our name, Huriawa ("bend in the river"), reflects this strong connection to place. The mural will also embody core values: - Caring – Oak tree (Te Maru) - Confident – Port Hills (Te Iringa o Kahukura) - Curious – Ōpāwaho River - Citizenship – Connection with people and environment	Total Cost \$10,111.38 Requested Amount \$6,000.00 59% requested Other Sources of Funding PTA Funding Contribution Sought Towards: Equipment and Materials \$6000.00	Recommended Amount \$2,500.00 That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$2,500.00 from its 2024/25 Place Partnership Fund to Te Kura O Huriawa Thorrington towards Te Kura o Huriawa Thorrington Mural.	2

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

Public Mural Artwork

A large-scale, mural by artist Wongi Wilson, installed on the school's Colombo Street-facing wall, representing the collective identity of the school community.

Student Art Exhibition

A curated exhibition of student-created visual artworks held in Matatiki (school hall) during Matariki, showcasing ideas that inform the mural design.

Student Voice Integration

Direct involvement of student leaders in the creative process, including consultation sessions with the artist to guide the mural's final concept.

Whole-School Learning Outcomes

Cross-curricular classroom learning and inquiry into the themes of identity, local history, values, and cultural narratives, with visual and written outputs from students.

Community Engagement

Active participation and engagement from whānau and the wider community through the Matariki exhibition, school communications, and the final public mural.

Cultural Narrative Representation

Integration of Ngãi Tuāhuriri's gifted narrative, including local environmental features (Ōpāwaho River, Port Hills, oak tree) and values, into a lasting, visible artwork.

Educational Resource

A permanent, visual learning resource on school grounds that supports ongoing conversations about identity, heritage, kaitiakitanga, and community values.

Staff Assessment

This fund won't typically support a project on school grounds, but as the wall is highly visible to the public and the Council aims to support further cultural artworks in the city, this funding recommendation is an exception. A further strength is the mural's focus on the school's cultural narrative, drawing on the name gifted by Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

While typically we would consider the artist concept when determining funding, this project takes a different approach—centring on engagement with students and whānau, with the concept to be co-developed alongside the artist. Council's Arts Advisor is generally supportive of the application but recommended including a public artist talk as part of the project, this was not part of the submission.

The artist, Wongi, has quoted \$10,000 for the mural.

The initial recommendation is to fund this in full, with an alternative option of contributing \$5,000, to be match-funded by the school.

Rationale for staff recommendation:

This mural will become a taonga (treasure), a visible legacy that connects our tamariki, whānau, and community through shared stories, culture, and pride.

Engagement process with the students and whanau will help explore and embed the school's cultural narrative with the students The project builds on Ngāi Tūāhuriri's gift to the school

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2024/25 PLACE PARTNERSHIP FUND DECISION MATRIX

Organisation Name	Project	Request Budget	Recommendation	
Funding History 2024/25 \$18,000.00 (Purchase of an AED for Little River) DRF P 2024/25 \$20,000.00 (Staff wages & Banks Peninsula Walking Festival) SCF BP 2023/24 \$18,000.00 (Staff wages - Little River Big Ideas & BP Walking Festival) SCF BP 2022/23 \$17,000.00 (Staff wages & BP Walking Festival Fund) SCF BP	Banks Peninsula Walking Festival The Banks Peninsula Walking Festival is the only major event to bring together all parts of the Horomaka Banks Peninsula community, from Akaroa to Tai Tapu, Lyttelton to Kaitorete. It is a partnership between the Little River Wairewa Community Trust and the Rod Donald Trust, with support from a range of community groups. All walks are led by two experienced guides and meet high standards of health and safety and a zero-waste policy. The festival's goals are to celebrate the natural beauty of the area, to encourage outdoor activity, to encourage visitors, to open up areas for walkers that are less accessible to them and to build connections between and within communities. With guided walks led by locals, landowners, and conservation experts, the festival fosters connection, storytelling, and knowledge-sharing that deepens participants' sense of place. This social, low-through-high-impact activity encourages inclusive participation across skill levels, generations and cultures. The event also promotes wellbeing, community cohesion, and environmental awareness. Many walks highlight ecological restoration efforts, mātauranga Māori, and local history — inspiring future volunteerism and a stronger connection to Banks Peninsula's landscapes.	Total Cost \$12,500.00 Requested Amount \$5,000.00 49% requested Other Sources of Funding Application will be made to Selwyn District Council (\$3000) The event is underwritten by our partner organisation, the Rod Donald Trust. RDT also provide in-kind support through website, ticketing and planning support. Contribution Sought Towards: Transport \$200.00 Equipment/materials \$500.00 Volunteer Recognition \$800.00 Salary \$1,000.00 Marketing & printing \$2,500.00	Recommended Amount \$5,000.00 That the Head of Community Support & Partnerships makes a grant of \$5,000.00 from its 2024/25 Place Partnership Fund to Little River Wairewa Community Trust towards Banks Peninsula Walking Festival.	1

Outcomes that will be achieved through this project

- 30 walks across four weekends in February 2026 plus a November event, aiming at a range of abilities and interests, including walks with an historical, ecological or mana whenua focus.
- New places: guided walks on land people are unlikely to explore otherwise. The walks are often on land not otherwise open to the public or informal tracks. These are often places of high value, such as covenanted, replanted or reserve land.
- Science, history, community: experienced guides, often landowners, conservationists or community leaders, provide a narrative about the places walked on. The walks provide a connection between the city and the land; they provide education and engagement with nature.
- Accessibility: The walks are social events, popular with those who do not want to walk alone or enjoy walking in company.

Staff Assessment

This is a popular event, with a large proportion of walks sold out within weeks of tickets becoming available and 95% of surveyed walkers wanting to come back next year. The same success is expected in 2026.

This event has received financial support from the Christchurch City Council and Selwyn District Council in past years.

The Trust has a P1 with the Board and receives the maximum available funding, which only partially covers their operating costs. With an end to RATA funding (they no longer fund Little River) this year, the Trust has made their Council funding available for staff wages. The Walking Festival will not be covered by Council funding for the next event as it would financially stretch the organisation.

Increasing ticket prices to cover the shortfall is not being considered, as it would be cost prohibitive for people in the community

Increasing ticket prices to cover the shortfall is not being considered, as it would be cost prohibitive for people in the community

Rationale for staff recommendation:

Funding will support the coordination, promotion, and delivery of over 30 guided walks

The walks will have a strong focus on collaboration, safety, accessibility, and meaningful community engagement

The event directly connects people to place, fostering a sense of belonging and stewardship

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Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund Panel - Notes Thursday 29th May 2025 11am Online - Teams

Panel members present:

Gary Watson – Manager Community & Partnerships Chloe Marks – Events Partnerships and Development Advisor Olivia Webb – Community Arts Advisor Angela Leatherby – Sports Liaison Advisor Joshua Wharton – Team Leader Community Funding

Other staff present:

Viviana Zanetti - Community Development Advisor
Brooke Jones on behalf of John Furlong - Sports Activation Advisor - Outdoors
Brindi Joy, Place Partnerships & Projects Advisor
Danielle Endacott – Community Development Advisor
Karla Gunby – Manager Active Communities Programme
Julie Pearce – Community Funding Advisor

Notes

The panel members were updated on the balance of the 2024/25 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund. The current available balance of the Discretionary Response Fund is: \$37,262

The panel members were updated on the balance of the 2024/25 Place Partnership Fund. The current available balance of the Place Partnership Fund is: \$26,814

Five Discretionary Response Applications were presented to and discussed by the Panel:



Funding Request Number	Applicant Name and Project Name	Amount recommended by staff	Discussion of the Discretionary Response City Wide Fund Panel	Recommendation of the Metropolitan DRF Panel
DRF24/25_107CW	Progressing Sessions Washington Way Bowl Jam Brooke Jones presenting on behalf of John Furlong	\$12,217	This event aligns with the CCC Strategic Framework, especially the intergenerational vision of being open to new ideas, new investment and new ways of doing things. This is an opportunity for the CCC to contribute to a new event that caters for the city's youth. The event also aligns with the RSE Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy Priority Areas: Participation, namely meeting the needs of RSE Priority Populations i.e. Tamariki, Rangatahi, Women and Girls coupled with an opportunity to recognise the sporting success of local athletes. Partnership between the event organisers, Progression Sessions, Skateboarding NZ and CCC. People: supporting and enhancing volunteer opportunities within the sport and recreation sector. Places: the event provides a venue for national competition and aligns with Skateboarding NZ's competition calendar. Panel discussion Brooke met with the organisation initially. They have Skateboarding NZ support for the South Island Championships which will put them on the world map. This is a championship level event where normally local skaters have had to travel to the North Island for such a high level event. Skateboarding NZ is the umbrella organisation for the event in November. They have never applied to Council for funding and don't qualify for the Small Sports Fund. John to speak to this group if this becomes an annual event as they should then come to SCF.	\$5,000
DRF24/25_110CW	Speed Freaks Charitable Trust	\$3,000	The team has outgrown the Richmond Cottage and require more space for office workers and groups. The Multicultural Centre has an office available that suits their need that they would like to take up immediately. The rationale for the staff recommendation is: - The numbers of Speedfreaks is growing and the need for additional office	\$3,000

	Multicultural Recreation Community Centre Rental Presented by Karla Gunby		space across the city in appropriate locations is vital to the organisation at this time Being a Speed Freak is received positively by local communities, who witness courage and commitment. This programme supports a large number of people vulnerable to inactivity and isolation, who are supported to run/walk each week in a low-cost programme supported by mainly by volunteers This application aligns with the Strengthening Communities Together Strategy and the Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy. Panel discussion This group is growing rapidly. They were advised to go to the Multicultural Centre by Matt Pratt and have been given a long-term temporary booking at the Multicultural Centre. Gary will speak to Matt regarding this because it is its own legal entity, separate from Council. This application should also be changed to a P1.	
DRF24/25_83CW	Ara Taihoi Incorporated Involve 2025 Presented by Danielle Endacott	\$37,000	This is a Priority 1 recommendation due to the project's significant reach—directly supporting over 1,000 youth development professionals and indirectly improving outcomes for young people across Christchurch and Aotearoa. The project contributes to the Strengthening Communities Together Strategy, particularly the People pillar, by providing lifelong learning opportunities that strengthen the sector's ability to respond to evolving youth needs—especially in the context of a youth mental health crisis, social media pressures, and socio-economic challenges. Hosting INVOLVE in Christchurch reduces travel and logistical barriers for the local sector and brings a high number of visitors to city. Through strategic rescoping and leveraging co-funding and in-kind contributions, Ara Taiohi has effectively reduced their original request —from \$100,000 to \$62,000— showing flexibility and a strong commitment to delivering value for investment. Panel discussion This is a massive conference for Christchurch and for youth. It will go ahead without full requested funding, but they will need to adapt the	\$17,600



DRF24/25_102CW	Societa Dante Alighieri di Christchurch Incorporated	\$2,860	programme. The night before the conference starts, they will showcase the youth hubs in the city, ending up at the hot pools. Parks plants are being given as koha. The project aligns with the Multicultural Strategy, Goal 4, by promoting the preservation of cultures and languages, and with the SCT Strategy, Pillar 1, Objectives 1.3, 1.7, and 1.5. Maintaining the mother tongue offers bilingual children numerous benefits, including	\$2,000
	Italian Children play group Presented by Vivianna Zanetti		enhanced cognitive abilities, improved academic performance, and a stronger sense of cultural identity. Furthermore, retaining their mother tongue helps children maintain a strong connection to their cultural heritage, fostering a sense of identity and belonging. These advantages align well with the goals of reducing loneliness and isolation through intergenerational approaches, as they help children communicate more effectively with family members, particularly grandparents who do not speak English, and their community, thereby strengthening social bonds and reducing feelings of isolation. The recommendation takes into account the community's ability to contribute and financially support the initiative with their own resources.	
			Panel discussion At present the parents are only paying \$30 per child per term and \$50 per term for two children. Vivianna felt the parents should be paying more and will speak to the group as they shouldn't be coming to the DRF each year.	
DRF24/25_115CW	Canterbury Kia Ora Academy Trust Multilingual Civic Engagement video series for Chch Communities	\$8,500	The request is recommended as a Priority One due to its strong alignment with Council outcomes and priorities, as well as the depth and focus of the project. The project strongly aligns with Council priorities, particularly the Participation and Belonging pillar, and supports Goal 2 of the Multicultural Strategy: equitable access to services and resources. It directly addresses a critical gap in access to information for newcomers, as identified by the Welcoming Communities Coordinator.	\$8,500



Presented by Vivianna Zanetti	The initiative promotes civic participation, digital inclusion, and social integration through accessible, multilingual content. Kia Ora Academy has demonstrated capability and credibility, with the technological expertise, skilled personnel, and strong partnerships required to deliver the project effectively. The project is a collaborative, community-led effort, involving NGOs,
	Panel discussion Vivianna was unsure if the group had applied for Ethnic Affairs funding. The Canterbury Kia Ora Academy Trust would own the content but they would be working with the Electoral Commission to make sure the content was correct. The videos would be shared on their social media and it will be shared easily. There was some discussion about their budget costs. They will partner with Ara community radio and this will be a quality product. After discussion regarding CCC funding they have already received this year, Vivianna will discuss with the group that they need to diversify their funding resources. They have an SCF application in progress.

Three Place Partnership application was presented to and discussed by the Panel:



Place Partnership Fund Application: Funding Request Number	Applicant Name and Project Name	Amount recommended by staff	Discussion of the Place Partnership Fund Panel	Recommendation of the Citywide Discretionary Response Fund Panel
PPF_2024/25_00031	Watch this Space Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library Mural Presented by Brindi Joy	\$15,000	The Council/Parks was gifted the land for the former War Memorial Museum. Transforming this site into a public place/pocket park falls outside the Parks budgeted scope. However, Parks saw the importance of this site and project and pulled together a small budget to transform the vacant site into a pocket park. Funding constraints meant there was no budget available for a mural. The Community Board has resolved (HHRB/2024/00112) to accept the park design, name the park 'Upper Riccarton War memorial Park' and to endorse Watch This Space to apply for funding for the mural. Watch This Space was granted LTP funding, which they are managing with ARCC. This budget has been fully allocated and/or committed to a programme of works which includes the Flare Festival. Arts are supportive of this application and provided advice regarding WTS' grant agreement with the Council for this funding. There is nothing in that agreement that excludes them from applying to the Council for additional projects outside their programme. Watch This Space have worked with the Arts Team to develop a brief. The Brief will be to create a work that is site-specific, and draws on the site's history, with input from community stakeholders and the Parks Team, ensuring the work honours the significance of the setting. Panel discussion Everyone agreed this was a good project and happy to fund fully.	\$15,000
PPF_2024/25_00032	Te Kura O Kurawa Thorington Te Kura O Kurawa Thorington Mural	\$6,000	This fund won't typically support a project on school grounds, but as the wall is highly visible to the public and the Council aims to support further cultural artworks in the city, this funding recommendation is an exception. A further strength is the mural's focus on the school's cultural narrative, drawing on the name gifted by Ngāi Tūāhuriri.	\$2,500

	Presented by Brindi Joy		While typically we would consider the artist concept when determining funding, this project takes a different approach—centring on engagement with students and whānau, with the concept to be co-developed alongside the artist. Council's Arts Advisor is generally supportive of the application but recommended including a public artist talk as part of the project, this was not part of the submission. The artist, Wongi, has quoted \$10,000 for the mural. The initial recommendation is to fund this in full, with an alternative option of contributing \$5,000, to be match-funded by the school. Panel discussion The building for the mural is facing Colombo Street so highly visible. Brindi's concern was that it was on school grounds and this could set a precedent for other schools. Olivia questioned why Wongi as chosen and has asked Brindi to investigate this. Wongi is a very well-known artist but doesn't do codesign so the tamariki would not be involved in painting the mural.	
PPF_2024/25_00033	Little River Wairewa Community Trust Banks Peninsula Walking Festival Presented by Brindi Joy	\$5,000	This is a popular event, with a large proportion of walks sold out within weeks of tickets becoming available and 95% of surveyed walkers wanting to come back next year. The same success is expected in 2026. This event has received financial support from the Christchurch City Council and Selwyn District Council in past years. The Trust has a P1 with the Board and receives the maximum available funding, which only partially covers their operating costs. With an end to RATA funding (they no longer fund Little River) this year, the Trust has made their Council funding available for staff wages. The Walking Festival will not be covered by Council funding for the next event as it would financially stretch the organisation. Increasing ticket prices to cover the shortfall is not being considered, as it would be cost prohibitive for people in the community	\$5,000



	Panel discussion	
	Questioned why this application has come to Citywide PPF when	
	they have previously always been funded by the local Community	
	Board. Brindi felt that it was a budgeting decision only. Discussion	
	around how this organisation is funded in general.	



DRF Panel Summary – May 2025	
DRF Metro Budget	\$484,802
Granted to date	\$447,540
Pending to be paid	\$ 0
Available for Allocation at Meeting	\$ 37,262
Recommended amount	\$ 36,100
If all recommended amounts are adopted the balance of DRF will be:	\$ 1,162

Request Number	Name	Name/Subject	Owner Name	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
DRF24/25_107CW	Progressing Sessions	Washington Way Bowl Jam	John Furlong	\$12,217	\$5,000
DRF24/25_110CW	Speed Freaks Charitable Trust	MRCC Rental	Karla Gunby	\$3,000	\$3,000
DRF24/25_102CW	Societa Dante Alighieri di Christchurch Incorporated	Italian children playgroup	Viviana Zanetti	\$2,860	\$2,000
DRF24/25_083CW	Ara Taiohi Incorported	Involve 2025	Daneille Endacott	\$62,600	\$17,600
DRF24/25_115CW	Canterbury Kia Ora Academy Trust	Multilingual Civic Engagement Video Series for Chch Communities	Vivana Zanetti	\$11,500	\$8,500



Place Partnership Panel Summary – May 2025	
PPF Metro Budget	\$142,000
Granted to date	\$115,186
Pending	\$15,000
Available for Allocation at Meeting	\$26,814
Recommended amount	\$22,500
If all recommended amounts are adopted the remaining PPF will be:	\$4,314

Place Partnership -	Applications				
Request Number	Name	Name/Subject	Owner Name	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
PPF_2024/25_00031	Watch this Space	Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library Mural	Brindi Joy	\$15,000	\$15,000
PPF_2024/25_00032	Te Kura O Huriawa Thorrington	Te Kura O Huriawa Thorrington Mural	Brindi Joy	\$6,000	\$2,500
PPF_2024/25_00033	Little River Wairewa Community Trust	Banks Peninsula Walking Festival	Brindi Joy	\$5,000	\$5,000