



Inspiring Communities February 2010 News – email newsletter

Kia ora tatou

While it's only February, the 2010 highlight for community-led development – so far – must be New Zealand's first Conference on Community Economic Development. 350 people from around the country (and the world) gathered in Auckland to listen and to share their experience on making a difference at an economic level for our local communities. This signals a milestone in our country's growing appreciation of the power of communities to 'do better' as a result of 'doing it together'.

Whether its creating local jobs through ground-breaking aquaculture development, or donating an hour to a local Time Bank, or being inspired by a Samoan, aiga (family) and village-based organic farming initiative now exporting to the world... there is no doubt that every single member of our communities has something to contribute to the prosperity and sustainability of their place.

You'll find several examples in this newsletter.

Some highlights from the articles and links below are:

- Observations from the Conference 'Developing the Social Economy'
- An update on Opotiki's Community led innovation and enterprise
- A look at how Time Banking is revealing the real wealth in communities like Lyttelton
- Links to coverage of the fantastic news that Victory, Nelson is officially New Zealand's Community of the Year!
- Links to upcoming events in Auckland and Wellington
- Learning Links including two books that will inspire and provoke

We value your feedback and suggestions, so please do click 'reply' to send us your thoughts and story ideas.

Best wishes
Mary-Jane Rivers
Inspiring Communities

For the latest Community News you can go straight to our website:

<http://www.inspiringcommunities.co.nz>

LATEST UPDATES ON THE INSPIRING COMMUNITIES WEBSITE

*** Communities come together to share enterprising ideas: Observations from the February 2010 Developing the Social Economy Conference in Waitakere, Auckland ***
Read the article at: <http://www.inspiringcommunities.org.nz/community-news/265-feb-2010-communities-come-together-to-share-enterprising-ideas>

*** Opotiki community-led innovation and enterprise ***

Aqua Culture plans are progressing, local youth enterprise is funding itself, Youth Art Murals are gaining international interest, there is a new Water Park... its all go in Opotiki:

<http://www.inspiringcommunities.org.nz/community-news/264-february-2010-opotiki-community-led-innovation-and-enterprise>

*** Time Banking revealing the real wealth in communities ***

Read about this powerful system that can help connect a community and support its economy: <http://www.inspiringcommunities.org.nz/community-news/273-time-banking-reveals-real-wealth-in-communities>

*** Creating Leaderful Communities August Workshop Report now online ***

For a detailed report from this inspiring forum, download the PDF from:

<http://www.inspiringcommunities.org.nz/community-led-development/auckland/270-creating-leaderful-communities-workshop-report>

COMMUNITY LED AND COMMUNITY DRIVEN

*** Engage! Beautiful thinking ***

The latest newsletter from Tamarack, An Institute for Community Engagement (Ontario, Canada) is now online at <http://tamarackcommunity.ca/newsletter/engage.htm>

*** HAVE YOUR SAY - Auckland Regional Social Policy Forum ***

The Minister of Social Development has released her discussion paper on the proposed central government/local government focused forum. See

<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/feedback+sought+auckland+social+policy+forum>

*** The February 2010 Porirua Village Planning Programme Update from Porirua City Council ***

A great example of resident driven development, the update is viewable online at:

<http://emailcampaigns.leftfieldinteractive.com/T/ViewEmail/r/C213AA10F148D20F/B618B18F31E96BF9D9767B6002735221>

LATEST MEDIA LINKS

*** Feb 2010: Victory, Nelson named NZ Community of the Year! ***

See our article with links to all the Nelson Mail coverage:

<http://www.inspiringcommunities.org.nz/community-news/259-little-day-out-to-mark-big-victory#top>

*** 16 Feb 2010 Whangarei Leader: Busy Community Centre ***

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/northland/local-news/whangarei-leader/3328492/Busy-community-centre>

*** 12 Feb 2010 NZ Herald: Green Business: Samoa's organic bananas making NZ inroads

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/small-business/news/article.cfm?c_id=85&objectid=10615670

EVENTS

*** Art of Hosting March training series ***

Participatory Leadership: Engaging to Get Results – one day workshop

In every organisation, group and community people are calling for leadership. This powerful one day event offers an opportunity to define and refine your leadership focus while practicing potent ways for engaging others to take wise action.

Where: Auckland, 5 March

Wellington, 19 March

Details: [http://www.artofhosting.org/events/?content\[news\]\[id\]=63](http://www.artofhosting.org/events/?content[news][id]=63)

For a flyer contact: mary-alice@getsoaring.com

*** FORUM: Towards equitable futures: integrating history, theory and practice ***

Where: Wellington

When: 24 March

Details:

<http://publichealth.massey.ac.nz/Symposia/Sym2010/Forum/Towards%20equitable%20futures.htm>

*** Roskill South big day out in park ***

Where: Molley Green Reserve, Roskill South, Auckland

When: 27 March

*** Gathering for Bay of Plenty people interested in Community-Led Development ***

An opportunity for practitioners, interested communities, and people who support them to get together. Discussion will centre on community-led development in the Bay of Plenty; what's working, challenges, and things that would help. This event is being supported by Inspiring Communities, the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust and BayTrust.

Where: Rotorua

When: 14 April

Details: For further information please email

Barbara.MacLennan@inspiringcommunities.org.nz

LEARNING LINKS

*** Two new books to inspire and provoke ***

-- Power and Love – a theory and practice of social change. Adam Kahane 2010

-- The Power of Collective Wisdom: and the trap of collective folly. Alan Briskin. Sheryl Erickson, Tom Callanan and John Ott 2009

See details in the Learning Links section on our website:

<http://www.inspiringcommunities.org.nz/learning-centre/learning-links>

*** A great example of community-led economic development, led by local Samoan women ***

Women in Business is small, Samoan, not-for-profit non government organisation focused on providing opportunities for rural and vulnerable people and families to earn an income where they live and with the resources they have at their disposal. Visit these websites for more:

-- Samoan Women in Business Development: <http://www.womeninbusiness.ws/> and

-- Oxfam: <http://www.oxfam.org.nz/newsroom.asp?action=view&type=News&id=2472> .

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