

Community and Voluntary Sector Research Forum

23rd September 2014

TOPIC: Social Enterprise

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November, 2014.

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Association of
Non-Governmental
Organisations of
Aotearoa



PROGRAMME

When? Tuesday, 23rd September 2014, 3pm-5pm.
(Refreshments provided from 2.45pm)

Where? Victoria's Railway West Wing Room 501
(Victoria University's door on the left hand side of the Station; take the first lift to the 5th floor, or take one of the other lifts to the 4th floor and walk up a flight of stairs.)

Speakers: (see over the page for abstracts)

- **Di Jennings:** "Findings from Comprehensive Research into the State of Community Economic Development and Social Enterprise in New Zealand"
- **Cliff Colquhoun:** "Working in our community for jobs and our environment."
- **Bernard Teahan and Richard Norman:** "Community Housing Growth: Pipedream or Reality?"

RSVP BY 19th SEPTEMBER TO: Judy.Beswick@vuw.ac.nz

Di Jennings: "Findings from Comprehensive Research into the State of Community Economic Development and Social Enterprise in New Zealand"

Abstract: The New Zealand Community Economic Development Research was completed and launched in January 2014. This presentation includes a summary of research findings. The research included five focus groups with a range of stakeholders, and 97 in-depth interviews with social enterprise and CED practitioners. The interviewed practitioners trade in a diverse range of activities and operate in cities, small towns and rural areas from right around New Zealand.

This presentation will also refer to two of the case studies that respond to the research hypothesis (proposition) that was developed through the data analysis process.

The case studies exemplify best practice in CED and social enterprise in New Zealand at this time.

The research report, "Community Economic Development; Understanding the New Zealand Context" is now available online at www.ced.org.nz. Funding from Lotteries Community Research Fund is acknowledged.

Bio: Di Jennings' diverse career includes working in community development, social enterprise and community arts in New Zealand and overseas. She has a degree in social practice and has worked with communities on development, community revitalization, sustainability and resilience, mainly in Waitakere City and Raglan (where she lives).

Cliff Colquhoun: "CBEC working in our community for jobs and our environment."

Abstract: Community Business & Environment Centre (CBEC), a community not only for profit enterprise, was established in 1989 as a community response to unacceptable levels of unemployment, the takeover of local businesses by national and multinational corporations and the degrading of our environment. Our mission is "to work in our community for jobs and the environment".

CBEC has become one of the Far North's larger employers and provides a diverse range of goods and services. It has successfully competed with large multinational corporations to win local Council tenders for services. CBEC has become a community asset with resources, skills and capacity to assist the district to manage its own affairs. It

operates as a local economic development agency that applies unorthodox methods to sustain the local economy, achieving positive economic growth and reducing costs to their local community.

Bio: Cliff Colquhoun is one of the founding members of CBEC and has been the General Manager since the organization's establishment (25 years). Cliff's background is engineering, commercial horticulture and social enterprise. He recently travelled to the UK under a Winston Churchill Fellowship to study Community Enterprise Networks and to recommend how NZ could benefit from the UK experience. His report can be downloaded from [http://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/vwluResources/WCMT-Cliff-Colquhoun-report/\\$file/WCMT-Cliff-Colquhoun-report.pdf](http://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/vwluResources/WCMT-Cliff-Colquhoun-report/$file/WCMT-Cliff-Colquhoun-report.pdf)

Bernard Teahan and Richard Norman: "Community Housing Growth: Pipedream or Reality?"

Abstract: By 2020, one fifth of New Zealand's social housing will be provided by community housing providers. That is the goal set by the Minister of Housing, Nick Smith and backed with legislation which came into force in April 2014. Currently the Government owned Housing New Zealand owns or manages 68,700 rental units while the community sector manages about 5,000. Depending on whether the Government also increases its housing stock, the goal seeks a three-fold expansion in community housing stock, to 15,000, or an increase of 10,000.

What are the challenges involved for community based housing providers and government policy in the pursuit of this goal? Is the goal feasible?

The question is debated by reviewing the experience of Trust House Ltd, based in Masterton, which is one of

New Zealand's largest community based providers of social housing.

Bio: Bernard Teahan was chief executive of Trust House when 541 houses previously owned by the Government were brought into community ownership in 1999 and after a period studying for a PhD about community enterprise, was again chief executive between 2007 and 2013.

Richard Norman is a senior lecturer with Victoria University's Management School and helped research this topic as part of summer scholarship work about social enterprises.