

Community and Voluntary Sector Research Forum

SEPTEMBER 2012

Governing Aotearoa

This forum is devoted to presentations dealing with various aspects of 'governing Aotearoa'.

- Heather Came from AUT looks at institutional racism and possible fundamentals of an anti-racist response.
- Bill Ryan examines the Better Public Services Advisory Group Report and concludes it offers a window of opportunity.
- Marion Blake from ANGOA looks at the same report from a community and voluntary sector perspective and sees possibilities and problems.

.....
Inside this issue:

Next Forum	1
Abstracts	2
Publication	2



Where and when

When? Monday, 24th September 2012 from 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 the abstracts over the page

Heather Came, 'Noticing Institutional Racism within the Public Sector'

Bill Ryan, 'Better Public Services: A window of opportunity—for the community sector too..?'

Marion Blake, 'Better Public Services: A community sector perspective'

RSVP BEFORE 17th September TO: Lyne.Todd@vuw.ac.nz

ABSTRACT: Heather Came, 'Noticing Institutional Racism within the Public Sector'

For decades, Waitangi Tribunal reports have been systematically recording institutional racism within the administration of the public service. These claims were echoed in both a series of key reports in the 1980s including the landmark *Puao te Ata Tu* and more recently in my doctoral research into institutional racism and privilege within the public health sector.

This presentation will (re)introduce the term institutional racism and outline how it manifests in the context of public health policy making and funding practices.

Some possible fundamentals of an anti-racist response to institutional racism within the public sector will also be outlined as a foundation for further dialogue and possible action.

Heather Came is a lecturer and activist scholar at AUT University teaching health promotion.

ABSTRACT: Bill Ryan, 'Better Public Services: A Window of Opportunity - for the community sector too...?'

The recent Better Public Services (BPS) Advisory Group Report proposes a new round of reforms for New Zealand's state sector. This time the focus sought is less on structural and system change and more on 'results', leadership, practice and culture. Despite concerns that can be raised about several aspects of the report and its projected implementation, there are also many reasons for treating the report and the work to follow as a window of opportunity - as much for and by the community and vol-

untary sector as the public sector itself. Indeed, the success or otherwise of the BPS initiative may stand or fall on the extent to which both sectors 'get activist' in trying to realise the promise that is hinted at in the report.

Bill Ryan is an Associate Professor in the School of Government at Victoria University.

ABSTRACT: Marion Blake, 'Better Public Services: A community Sector Perspective'

From a community sector perspective, there are possibilities in the Better Public Services (BPS) Advisory Group's proposals. In relation to results (outcomes), collaboration and partnership and efficient and effective delivery via 'best-sourcing' arrangements, the community and voluntary sector is well placed to contributing to this new stage of development, particularly since new types of relationships and organisations will be required.

The emphasis on results is particularly welcome but there is a concern that government agencies will individually and independently seek to achieve their part of the results that are sought and not go for the

more complex cross-agency approach. They would thereby hit the target but miss the point. There is a shared responsibility on both the government and the community sectors to ensure appropriate connections are made, if the BPS vision is to become a reality.

Marion Blake is the CEO of Platform and the current chair of ANGOA.

Bill's and Marion's presentations are drawn from articles published in the August issue of *Policy Quarterly*. This journal and the articles are available for download from <http://igps.victoria.ac.nz/publications/publications/show/332>