

Community Business & Environment Centre



A community owned enterprise
"working in our community for jobs & the environment"



Getting started (1989)

- Heaps of vision
- Prepared to take risks
- No money
- Determined to create a model of what is possible
- Half a building with no toilet

What have we become 25 years on...

Providing services to our community

Busabout Kaitia <small>The Way to Go!</small>	Public Bus Service
ecoSOLUTIONS <small>CBEC</small>	Environmental Education to all primary schools in the Far North
Healthy Homes <small>The Foundation of Wellbeing</small>	Home insulation installed into over 7,000 homes and offering energy efficiency programmes
cleanstream	Far North District Council waste and recycling services
LABOUR-HIRE <small>It's More than just a Job to Us</small>	Contractors and labour supply
The Garden Centre <small>CBEC</small>	Wholesale nursery and garden centre
Swim Zone <small>Public Pools</small>	Operation of three public swimming pools, Kaitia, Kawakawa and Kerikeri
north hire <small>MANAGERS</small>	A joint venture with a local hire company
80 permanent employees	\$7.5 million turnover
\$3 million in community assets	One of the larger employers in Kaitia

How has this been achieved?

CBEC has become

An:

- Economic development agency
- Service provider

That:

- Has become a business owned by our community that has capacity and will take risks
- Has been able to compete for district wide contracts against multi national corporations
- Avoids competition with other locally owned businesses
- Operates 24/7, 365 days of the year
- Are no longer reliant on community funding. CBEC invests approx. \$100,000 back into community projects per year
- Have great joint ventures and key relationships
- **Has an unorthodox approach to Economic Development**

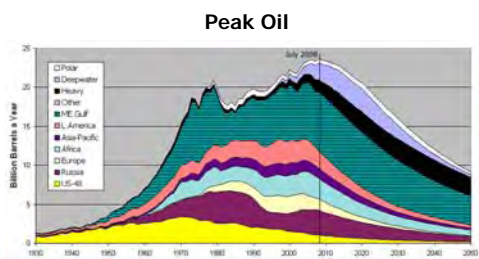
Something crazy's going on with current economic thinking



- CBEC doesn't buy into increased policing and using more resources than our world can produce as growth
- CBEC's aim is to create **positive** economic growth for our community through:
 - Local ownership of business
 - Redirecting spending
 - Creating new jobs
 - Creating new services

Pretty much making the most of what We've got

Conventional economic structure and our current systems are not preparing us for the world we will face in the future



- We need to create a new economic model
- Social / Community Enterprise is one of the leaders of this change worldwide
- To achieve a new economic structure will require an unorthodox approach

CBEC's unorthodox approach finds creative solutions to the madness then creates opportunities locally



The first rural community to turn waste into a resource

Waste Recovery and Recycling

- Creates 10 times the employment of landfills
- Is more affordable than landfills
- Is an export industry
- Captures natural resources
- Is just common sense

CBEC's unorthodox approach reduces unnecessary costs and improves the lives of families



Home insulation and reducing power costs

- Targeting low income families
- Improving health
- Creating local jobs

Kaitiā has the highest power costs in the country yet we live in the best place to generate power.

- CBEC takes away the barriers to participation in energy efficiency
- Halving residential and commercial power bills will put millions of dollars per month back into our local economy
- CBEC' future – Low emission wood burning stoves, photo voltaic energy, low interest loan scheme and bio fuel production

CBEC's unorthodox approach future proofing our community

Public Transport - Busabout Kaitiā



- The Far North has large distances to travel to access basic needs i.e. work, medical, shopping and education
- We have the lowest income per household in NZ
- Busabout is the lowest cost and most sustainable public service in NZ (we have the statistics)
- Busabout is the only public transport service not currently funded by central government because we don't relieve congestion.
- 2000 – 2011 - Fuel prices increased by approx. 120%
- Wages increased by approx. 30%
- Every rural community needs a bus service

CBEC's unorthodox approach creating new jobs rather than paying people to be unemployed



Creating new employment through enhancing our social and physical environment

We have the money, resources and labour to improve the quality of every river and stream in NZ

We have the money and people to improve the lives of our young and elderly

*We don't need one dollar more –
We just need to redirect current
unemployment spending*

Social / Community Enterprise

What could be achieved nationally

Based on the achievements of the United Kingdom Social Enterprise Sector, there is huge opportunities for Social Enterprise to grow the NZ economy.

Social Enterprise United Kingdom

- Have a clear understanding of their role in the UK social structure and economy
- They work in areas where the private and public sectors fail to perform
- They have a significant impact on their local economies
- They provide consulting services to local and central government
- Central government utilise social / community specialists to develop government policy
- They have formed large national networks with paid staff who support start-up enterprises, coordinate trading within the network, promote the sector and lobby local and central government.

Social / Community Enterprise

Building on the existing potential

Good individual networks exist now



These organisations are currently exploring how they can align to provide one voice to influence central government policy

The organisations that are based on strong collaborative ethics have experienced growth individually and collectively

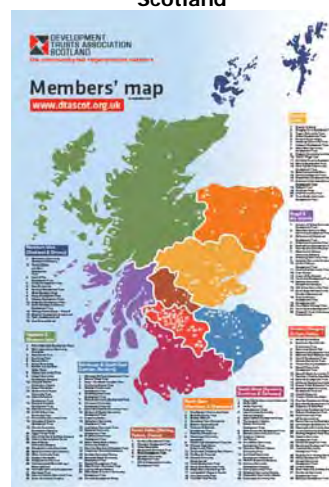
What NZ needs is a single social / community enterprise representative network.

How successful could we expect a single organisation representing diverse activities to be

Social / Community Enterprise

Do we need to reinvent the wheel
Or do we have the model?

Scotland



What can be achieved in ten years

- Government provide a guarantee of funding for infrastructure
- Then left the sector to manage its own development

Social / Community Enterprise

We have a bit of history



Provided social services since 1906. Now one of Northern Ireland's largest employers providing a diverse range of services to their communities.

Established in 1860, the foundation organisation campaigned for education, pensions, decent housing, health and legal aid for all. This has formed the basis of the UK and NZ social welfare system. Oxford and Cambridge graduates worked in communities to establish these basic services



Social / Community Enterprise

How do we describe ourselves?

Unorthodox

- Contrary to what is usual, traditional or acceptable
- Unconventional, out of the ordinary, revolutionary, non conformist, original, novel, fresh, eccentric, alternative, extreme and avant-garde (ideas and practices that are regarded as in advance of those generally accepted)
- Social / community enterprise is hard work but a challenging and exciting sector.
- The key to success is to avoid restrictive bureaucracy
- Community enterprise takes risks, changes attitudes and breaks down barriers "so that their communities can manage their own affairs"