

# Community Sector Taskforce



Panui 007

20 May 2005

*He kokonga whare e kitea; he kokonga ngakau e kore e kitea  
You can see the corners of the house; you cannot see the corners of the heart*

The Community Sector Taskforce has been engaged since April 4<sup>th</sup> in intensive discussions with the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Hon Rick Barker.

We are immensely grateful to all those Sector groups and organisations, individual Sector leaders, and Members of Parliament who have supported the Community Sector Taskforce during this difficult process. The work of the Taskforce embodies six years of visions, plans and work developed by people in local regional and national communities, and we were not prepared to let it go.

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May, an agreement was reached with the Minister on the following actions:

The Minister will continue dialogue with his Cabinet colleagues about how best the government can support the initiatives of the Taskforce (and its predecessors) so that there is a mechanism bringing together the whole Sector, to strengthen the Sector, and to interact with government. He hopes this work will reach a conclusion by the end of next month, June.

The Taskforce will be funded until the end of December this year, to continue with the following tasks:

- to convene a meeting of umbrellas and strategic leaders on May 27 - to report progress, and to seek guidance for the immediate future
- to refresh the Taskforce membership, to carry the Taskforce and its work forward
- to enable the staff team to continue with the Workplan to engage with the Sector, at regional and local levels, and
- to work towards a national Sector forum later in the year. This Forum will both enable Sector planning and priority setting, and Sector agenda setting for dialogue on Sector-wide issues with the Government.

- to continue those projects already commenced by the Taskforce - particularly the commitment to a research centre for the Sector, and a media project which will profile the Sector and its work; and to continue participating in government led projects
- to begin scoping ongoing Sector-driven capacity building and Sector-wide projects which address the priority issues and needs of the Sector.

We are pleased that the dialogue can continue - both within the Community, Voluntary and Tangata Whenua Sector, and between the Sector and government.

At the same time, we will continue to work to secure long term planning and sustainable funding as an essential requirement of future Sector development.

The Taskforce members, and our staff team, are committed to a process of engagement with the Sector, in all its diversity. We look forward to discussion and dialogue. We remain committed to the values and vision of a strengthened, sustainable Sector which is informed, connected, and able to do its work. We are still committed to the benefits of the Tiriti/Treaty two-house model for our Sector and for our communities.

Your ongoing involvement is essential - beginning with our May 27 meeting, and continuing through the rest of the year.

For further information about the May 27 meeting or other work, please contact our Development Managers. Contact details are below.

Background information on the Community Sector Taskforce and its development to date can be found on <http://www.nzfvwo.org.nz/?/cst>.

**Barbara MacLennan**  
Phone (07) 345 6415  
Cell (0274) 252 277  
Email [barbara.maclennan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:barbara.maclennan@xtra.co.nz)

**Tony Spelman**  
Phone (09) 636 2107  
Email [tonys@pl.net](mailto:tonys@pl.net)

**Iris Pahau**  
Phone (04) 526 2036  
Cell (021) 177 1012  
Email [awc@paradise.net.nz](mailto:awc@paradise.net.nz)