**Community Trust of Southland** 

## At a Glance 2015-2016

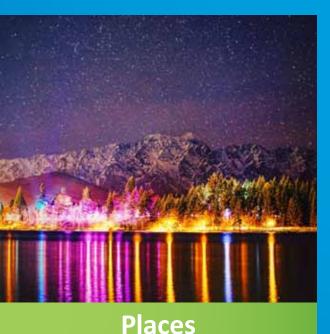






Partnerships









Year Established 1988

Funding approved since inception

\$173 million

5.9% Investment return 2015-16

> 5 \$208 million

**10 Trustees** 

4.3 Staff

\$5.38 million
Funding approved



Grant & Scholarship Applications:

507

479 28 declined

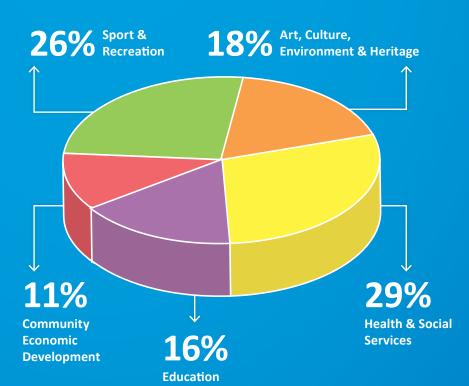
\$4,937,221
Grants



**\$ \$300 000**Largest grant



## **Funding approved by sector**



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Trish Boyle, Chair of the Community Trust of Southland

It has been an honour to lead an enthusiastic and committed team as we look to provide the best opportunities for the people and communities of the Trust's area.

During the past year we have worked together to implement the essence of our new strategic direction in a planned and focused way. Our shared vision underpins our practice and it has been exciting to see how all the new initiatives and plans are aligned with this.

The staff, led by our hardworking CEO, have embraced the many changes in a positive and enthusiastic way as they have worked together to bring about many changed practices. A key initiative this year has been the implementation and development of our online grants management system - SmartyGrants. This has been particularly successful and I would like to thank grant applicants for accepting and supporting this change. Trustees have also worked hard to use the new system effectively and the focused discussions around grants at the Board table have been strengthened by access to the detailed information about the grants that is available to each Trustee online.

The CEO, Grants Manager and Trustees spent time consulting with most schools in our area around the changes to the way we support schools. The changed and increased allocation of funds to the Principal's Discretionary Fund has been an exciting move and provides schools with more flexibility to support students in the best possible way. A \$1million Innovation Fund was launched in August 2016 and this will help provide opportunities for not for profit organisations to bring exciting and creative ideas into reality.

Our staff at the Community Trust are a dedicated team who continue to be focused on working hard to deliver the best outcomes for our community. They are led by a very capable CEO and the collaborative way they work as a team adds a depth of strength to practice at the Community Trust. Jennifer Hay has joined the team as our accountant and we

welcome her and appreciate the knowledge and expertise she brings to the team.

This year the development of the Southland Regional Development Strategy has seen extensive consultation and collaboration between leaders across Southland. We are proud to be part of that and are confident that the exciting and innovative ideas that have been discussed will be translated into action and change that supports our community.

The Trust has appointed a new Investment Adviser and the Investment team led by Lindsay Wright have reviewed investment practices and refined our practice to continue to grow and develop our funds to provide for our community now and in the future. The Trust has granted \$5.38m to the community this year and total granting since the inception of the Trust is \$173m. The Trust's financial performance this year has been very good, our investment return for the past year was 5.9 per cent and at 31 March 2016 our net assets were at \$208 million, an increase of \$7 million over last year.

We are pleased to report that Trustees, Penny Simmonds and Richard Wason have been reappointed for another four years. John Wilson has resigned as a Trustee as he has moved out of the Trust's area, however his expertise as a Trustee is now being used by the Otago Community Trust. We welcome Warren Skerrett from Queenstown to our team of Trustees and look forward to the knowledge and experience he brings to his role. An exciting addition to our Community Trust whanau this year has been Hemaraea Kapo who was born to Trustee Mata Cherrington in June 2016.

We have appreciated the opportunity to meet with grant recipients and see the difference our granting has made in their community, with monthly board meetings held in Invercargill, as well as Tapanui and Queenstown this year.

Our Trustees work hard to provide a strong framework for the governance of the Community Trust and the shared discussions at Board level are focused on providing an effective and thriving Community Trust that supports communities across the region.

I would like to thank all individuals and communities throughout our region for their continued commitment to provide opportunities for people across our community, and Trustees look forward to continuing strong partnerships as we work towards developing and growing 'A Thriving Southland.'





Trish Boyle



Ross Jackson



Lindsay Wright
Deputy Chair



Stephen O'Connor



Stephen Bragg



Penny Simmonds



Mata Cherrington



Richard Wason



Margot Hishon



Warren Skerrett

