

Media Release

(For immediate release)

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Premier teams and events fund expands to include arts and culture

A Community Trust South fund supporting premier sports teams has been expanded to include other premier groups and is now known as Compete – a fund for premier events and travel.

Compete, previously known as Premier Team and Events Fund, now includes funding support to premier arts and cultural groups. Teams and groups competing at a premier level will be eligible to be supported for both hosting premier events and travelling outside the region to compete.

Community Trust South Chair Margot Hishon said the inclusion of other premier competitive groups outside of sport was good for the wider community.

“High level competitive events positively impact the whole region. There are economic, social and cultural benefits that international quality events like Tour of Southland and 2018 NZ Ploughing Championships have brought to our community and we want to make sure that these opportunities continue to be available to the community, not just in sports but also in the arts and culture sectors.

We also recognise that there is a lot of financial investment in travelling to competitive national and international events and the trust wants to help ease the burden of some of these costs” Mrs Hishon says.

Community Trust South General Manager Jackie Flutey adds, “The experience and development that is gained from exposure to elite events and being with other like-minded participants is very beneficial to competitive teams and groups”.

In total \$150,000 per annum will be available for projects, with a maximum grant of \$6,000 to any one team travelling away.

The fund’s purpose is aligned with the strategic priorities of Community Trust South, particularly support of the development of athletes, coaches and officials to excel and reach their potential, celebrating and preserving the cultural diversity of our region and support of emerging and established artists to excel and reach their potential.

Lisa Tou-McNaughton, Art Advocate for Arts Murihiku said “We are delighted that Community Trust South is recognising excellence in the arts and culture sector for teams and groups. This fund opens up opportunities to practitioners working at an elite level.”

Applications close 15 February each year. For more information about Compete and how to apply head to communitytrustsouth.nz

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