

News Update: March 11, 2010



By now you should be aware of the changes to the Funding opportunities from Sport and Recreation Services, Department of Communities, as announced by the Minister for Sport, Phil Reeves.

Now it's time to consider the pointy end – what does this mean to your organisation?

Realistically only you can answer that but consider the following:

- The funding offers new opportunities to get some support for your events, activities, volunteers, organisation.
- Recreation has been identified as a priority area – e.g. high priority funding specifically notes opportunities for those delivering outdoor recreation trails and camping facilities.
- Community groups, not for profit incorporated organisations, schools, councils and not for profit recreation organisations are ALL eligible for funding.
- Funding for inclusion is an important focus so think about how you can actively encourage and enable widespread participation.
- Unless we do apply, the money WILL go to sport!

This latter point is important. For too long the opportunities for recreation have been hard to identify. The majority of money does go to sporting clubs and organisations – they apply and they apply well. People are tired of the application and compliance demands related to getting money. Some of us have given up.



Now is the time to find some more energy!

If we put in applications then some money WILL come to outdoor recreation. Unless we do put in applications, outdoor recreation initiatives will be harder to get established – and it will suggest that we don't really need/ want/ require the money.

The focus within government is shifting but **if** we are to get money, **if** recreation is going to stay on the agenda, **if** outdoor recreation in all its guises is going to build credibility – we have to apply with some quality applications and help government realise the value that we do have to offer and the quality of our services.

Specific Opportunities

Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Program: Particularly *relevant* to Local Councils, schools and those with large land holdings.

Funding round is open until April 16.

High Priority projects include: new spaces or places for recreation participation (consider increasing participation by retro-fitting or expanding existing services); lighting of recreation locations (including for schools); Outdoor recreation trails and camping facilities (NB money is for publicly accessible trails and sites).

Sport and Recreation Active Inclusion Program: Particularly *relevant to* Not for profit community groups, recreation organisations, local councils, schools.

Funding round is open until April 16.

Key Points: 100% funding for projects up to \$50 000; use this funding to build profile and credibility – with your communities, with government agencies; consider running come and try days, running some events for the target communities, working with those in need in your local areas to build their interest and capacity to be able to participate; think large and small – local participation initiatives/ regional opportunities & apply for funding accordingly!

Target groups for active inclusion = children, youth and families at risk; culturally and linguistically diverse; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; people with a disability; vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

NOTE: There is also still money to build your organisations capacity. \$5000 is useful to get your volunteers trained, improve your website or database, market how your activity/ organisation is relevant to a wide range of people from different backgrounds.

Jobs Plan: Particularly relevant to those of you who can work with others – and have a staffing policy

Funding opens April 1.

Key Points: 3 year program only; apply to have a person who will work across a region, or suite of organisations to help you with: governance, information, collaboration, sponsorship, marketing, volunteer recruitment ...; you will have to demonstrate how you are also supporting the staff person – e.g. office, car, additional income, superannuation etc; consider a collaborative group of council, not for profit, state recreation organisation or club.

State Sport and Recreation Organisation Development Program: Relevant to SRO's, ISO's

Funding opens April 1.

Key Points: focus your planning on increasing participation, increasing volunteers, increasing your activities to incorporate the target groups for active inclusion: Smart, Healthy, Green, Fair, Strong!

Other Funding – Children in Care available through the Minister for Child Safety. Money available for participation or registration fees for at risk: up to \$300 per child. Opened Feb 1, Closes Dec 31 2010.

Talk to your local Sport and Recreation Staff ... Plan to meet the priorities ... Apply