

Kia ora

The Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS) provides grants to non-profit community organisations delivering community-based services and projects throughout Aotearoa New Zealand. COGS is an important source of Government-funded grants available to these organisations.

COGS is a great example of a partnering approach, Government and communities working stronger together to make communities better for all New Zealanders. This partnership relies on active community involvement for its success. Decisions on funding requests submitted to COGS are made by Local Distribution Committees (LDCs). LDCs are made up of volunteers nominated and elected by the communities they serve.

LDC members are elected every three years. Candidates are nominated by community organisations providing services to communities within each local LDC area. Now is your opportunity to nominate a candidate for the 2017 LDC elections.

Serving on an LDC is a rewarding experience that leads to greater understanding of the links between government and communities. It gives members experience in facilitation, leadership and decision-making. Membership of an LDC is a voluntary role that requires a commitment of approximately 80 – 100 hours each year, including assessment of funding requests and attendance at decision meetings. You can read more about COGS and the 2017 COGS elections at the website www.communitymatters.govt.nz. Alternatively, please contact Vicki McAlpine, 03 479 6515, Vicki.mcalpine@dia.govt.nz for further information.

I encourage you to get involved with COGS by making a nomination for the Central Otago LDC elections. A nominated candidate may be a person associated with your organisation or anyone based in the local area with an interest in serving the community. Please reply to this email with the name of the person you wish to nominate including a contact email address and phone number for this person. Nominations must be received by 1 March 2017.

You may also have an opportunity to participate in COGS public meetings held prior to the funding round each year. By attending COGS public meetings, community groups contribute to setting the LDC priority outcomes for COGS funding in their local area. This ensures COGS decision-making processes and committees are community owned and community driven.

Kindest Regards
Vicki McAlpine

Vicki McAlpine | Support Officer | Community Operations

The Department of Internal Affairs Te Tari Taiwhenua

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