

TRUST AORAKI

Covid-19  Information

Clarification of grant funds issued and the implications of the Covid-19.

Tuesday, 19 May 2020

In these unusual and challenging times that we all face, the Board and staff of Trust Aoraki sincerely hope that all members of your organisation have come through the last seven weeks without illness or harm. It has been a difficult time for everyone and Trust Aoraki too is not immune to the ramifications of the Government 'lockdown'.

We understand the challenges your organisation may face for the foreseeable future and the huge time commitment given by both volunteers and employees.

These are uncertain times that will likely continue for some time. Our industry (Class 4 Gambling in hotel venues), has definitely been hit hard with the temporary closure of these hospitality venues. We are unsure how and when the ability for us to generate grant funds will return anywhere close to historical levels.

From conversations had with, and our understanding of, local sporting and community groups, organisations may experience significant financial difficulties going forward. The Board of Trust Aoraki would like to reassure your organisation that within our governance guidelines, we will continue to ensure the best possible use of available funds when approving applications for grants.

Trust Aoraki has a Donation Criteria Policy that is available for viewing on our website www.trustaoraki.co.nz and I draw your attention to clause 11 which states:

"Grant Applications for administration and operational costs (i.e. power, telephone, rent, wages etc) will not be considered unless the application meets a recognised need within a local community".

The Board has agreed, that while organisations are experiencing the impact of COVID-19 and subject to available grant funds, they will consider applications for operational costs if your organisation is able to demonstrate absolute need in your application. You will need to disclose your full financial information.

Where grant funds previously issued are unable to be used for the authorised purpose due to COVID-19, for example cancellations or postponements of tournaments, events or winter programmes etc, **we ask that you provide any audit information to Trust Aoraki as soon as possible.** As is the normal process with grant audit information, where funds are unused it is highly probable you will need to return those funds.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns, questions or needs you may have. This can be done over the phone or in person (complying with Alert Level 2 health and safety obligations). The better we understand your circumstances going forward the better equipped we are to assist with funding in the future.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely, **Irene Emond**



General Manager – Trust Aoraki Limited