



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## ENERGY TRUST SUPPORTS ST JOHN

The Eastern Bay Energy Trust approved total distributions of \$140,997 for five energy-related community projects, at its monthly meeting earlier this week.

St John Whakatane received a distribution of \$87,834 to upgrade the older part of the complex in Arawa Road. This will involve the installation of heating and air-conditioning, ceiling insulation, kitchen appliances, hot water boilers and an electrical upgrade.

Whakatane Citizens' Advice Bureau will install heat pumps for heating and cooling its premises in Boon Street thanks to a distribution of \$8,216.

A distribution of \$11,640 will allow Kawerau Ex Navalmen's Club to remove old gas heaters and install heat pumps. The Taneatua Squash Club will install heat pumps, ceiling insulation and new kitchen appliances, as well as upgrading the lighting and hot water supply, with a distribution of \$33,307.

Funding to cover the costs of generators for East Coast schools during the planned shutdown by Transpower in November was also approved, with the total costs still to be confirmed.

Trust Chairman Mrs Toni Owen announced the distributions and said "The Trust provided funding for the energy related components of the new St John ambulance station in 1999, and this extra funding will allow the completion of the two-stage project. The Trust has previously provided funding for St John in Opotiki, Kawerau and Te Kaha. The service provided by St John is absolutely essential to our communities, and so this is a very worthy distribution of Trust funding, and one which will have a direct benefit for all of the Trust's beneficiaries."

### ***For further information contact***

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