



MEDIA RELEASE

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ENERGY TRUST UPGRADES WAR MEMORIAL HALL HEATING

The Eastern Bay Energy Trust approved total distributions of \$108,158 for four energy related community projects, at its May meeting.

Whakatane War Memorial Hall will be much warmer in winter and cooler in summer thanks to a distribution of \$53,420 which will be used to install heat pumps in the foyer and the Little Theatre.

Funding of \$9,518.73 was approved for the Whakatane Volunteer Rural Fire Force, to purchase a portable generator, extension cords and floodlight units for its new search and rescue trailer, and towards the costs of installing kitchen appliances in the new rural fire station in Te Tahi Street.

Matata Rugby and Sports Club received \$20,000 for installing heat pumps, and towards the costs of upgrading appliances in the club's kitchen and tuck shop.

A distribution of \$25,218.95 was approved for Te Kura O Te Teko, to install heat pumps and upgrade the switchboard in the school hall, and to insulate the classrooms.

Trust Chairman Mrs Toni Owen announced the distributions and said "The Whakatane War Memorial Hall is well used by the community, and the inefficient heating has long been an issue. The heating upgrade will have wide benefits for the Trust's beneficiaries. The Matata Rugby Club is the oldest rugby club in New Zealand and the heating and appliances upgrade will assist the club with its plans to celebrate 120 years, in 2007.

The volunteer rural fire force provides a very important service to the community, and has made significant contributions to rescue and relief response following the flooding, landslides and tornado events that have occurred over the past two years. The Trustees are happy to support the establishment of a civil defence trailer by providing funding towards the energy related aspects".

For further information contact

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