



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## TRUST FUNDS OPOTIKI XRAY MACHINE

The Eastern Bay Energy Trust today approved a grant of \$85,980 for the purchase of the new digital xray machine currently being installed at the Opotiki Community Health Centre.

Trust Chairman Mrs Toni Owen announced the grant and said "The Opotiki Lions Club made the commitment to raise \$156,000 on behalf of the people of the Opotiki District, and have held a variety of fundraising events which have been very well supported by the community. The Eastern Bay Energy Trust is very happy to support this project, which means that Opotiki will now have a centrally located community facility that all people will have access to, and patients will no longer have to travel to Whakatane or Tauranga."

Three Eastern Bay schools also received grants, bringing total distributions to \$330,290.

A grant of \$98,826 for Trident High School will cover the cost of the electrical, heating and insulation aspects of the new community auditorium. A condition of the approval is an agreement between the school and the Trust which guarantees community access to the new facility.

Opotiki College will use a \$44,287 grant to install heat pumps in the gymnasium to replace broken-down underfloor heating, which was identified as being unsafe and inefficient in the energy audit which the Trust funded in 2003.

Paroa School will install heat pumps throughout the school to replace wood burners and fan heaters, with a grant of \$104,196.

Mrs Owen said "The Trustees are pleased to support school initiatives that will provide energy savings resulting from energy efficiency, classroom or learning environments that will result in enhanced learning outcomes for students, and school / community facilities where there is a demonstrated community need, and where there is an agreement in place which guarantees access by the community."

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

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