



PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE USE

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Ambassador programme set up

The Southland District Council is to provide a new opportunity for Southland young people.

Council has created a Youth Ambassador programme where a youth between 18 and 25 will be made a Southland ambassador for a year.

Venture Southland Group Manager Community Development and Events Rex Capil said the programme will give skilled young Southlanders opportunities to contribute to the community and learn about other communities.

“The Youth Ambassador may work with various agencies in a broad range of areas that include health, environment, rural development, gender, governance, justice, education and infrastructure development and will also spend up to 14 days in Southland’s Sister City Wyong in Australia,” Mr Capil said.

The young person will use their skills and expertise to actively contribute to Southland and develop and promote youth activities and initiatives.

The ambassador will also work closely with the Council’s Youth Council, he said.

“It’s about developing youth pride in Southland while acknowledging the challenges facing them and supporting community engagement, enterprise and employment opportunities, which in turn should help keep young people in the District.”

The cost for the ambassadorship will be met from a Government grant after Venture secured \$20,000 from the Mayors’ Taskforce for Jobs Employment Catalyst Fund.

Southland Mayor Frana Cardno said it was fantastic to get the funding so Council could encourage youth leadership in Southland for the future.

“We will be able to choose youth that inspire others.”

It is anticipated that the first youth ambassador will be appointed in July for a one year period.

For further information, please contact:

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