

Non-profit Foundations and Community Trusts: Resilience and Adaptation

Presenter: Jennifer Gill, CEO ASB Community Trust

Title: The role of philanthropy: the venture capital of social change?

The philanthropic grant making sector in NZ, and world-wide, has been through a decade of rapid and profound change. The old paradigms no longer apply. Grant makers and philanthropists are asking themselves and their grantees a totally new set of questions about and to whom they allocate their funding and why? The vernacular has changed and now includes discussion of strategy, intent, impact, evaluation, measurement, accountability, sustainability, results, scale and replicability. Increasingly grant makers are able and willing to see themselves as impacting on deeply entrenched social issues through sustained investment programmes that replace the grant making practices of the past that at best could be categorised as random act of financial kindness.

Presenter:

Richard Norman, Senior Lecturer in Human Resources Management and Industrial Relations, Victoria University, Wellington, NZ and **Jacinda Ashley-Jones**, Victoria University, Wellington, NZ.

Title: Rotary- A network of the industrial era response to the challenge of updating itself for the information economy

The Rotary Club of Wellington, the oldest among more than 300 Rotary clubs in New Zealand, will mark its centennial in 2021. This session will provide an overview of a Victoria University summer research project which will use the theme of 'social enterprise' to analyse historical and current contributions of this club, the largest in New Zealand, with 160- members. Rotary was founded in Chicago in 1905 and by the time Wellington was founded (with Auckland a week later), there were more than 1000 clubs. Now there are 30,000 clubs and 1.2 million members, though this membership has remained at that level for more than ten years. During its founding period, Rotary can be seen as an industrial era equivalent of the LinkedIn network, but with a wider mission of fostering 'service above self' through community focused projects. The Rotary Club of Wellington has helped found and support many non-profit initiatives, including CCS, the Plunket Society, Skylight Trust, Zealandia and currently the science oratory competition 'Eureka'. While the term social enterprise has come into prominence during the past ten years as governments seek innovative ways to deliver community services, Rotary has effectively been a social enterprise from its founding era, as clubs led by businessmen sought to apply business techniques to tackling social issues. A challenge for Rotary internationally is to renew its membership by showing relevance to younger people who have grown up with the internet and social media networks. This session aims to spark a discussion about ways in which a well-established social enterprise can review its processes and remain relevant.

Panel Discussion

Panel Members:

Jennifer Gill. CEO, ASB Community Trust, Auckland, NZ

Jonny Gritt General Manager – Grants & Marketing, The Lion Foundation
Auckland, NZ

Richard Norman Senior Lecturer HR Management/Industrial Relations
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Jenny Wang Executive Director, Chinese New Settlers Trust, NZ