

Hot Wire



Newsletter of the **Whanganui Rural Community Board** – March 2022

Rural Community Grant Fund open for applications

The Whanganui Rural Community Board has expanded the scope of its existing Rural Security Camera Fund to include more community-based projects.

Relaunched as the Rural Community Grant Fund, it will have a wider reach for support and is intended to help small, nimble rural projects get off the ground as well as assist groups that wouldn't normally qualify for help from larger funding sources.

Board chair Peter Oskam says, "Our new Rural Community Grant Fund is designed to be more flexible and reach more people in our rural areas. We'll be looking to support activities that are family-friendly, have a high degree of local participation, and that promote community wellbeing."

Priority will be given to community organisations, charities, not-for-profit organisations, iwi groups and marae. Projects can range from school community garden or tree plantings, charity fundraisers, marae working bees and other community events.

Deputy board chair David Wells says, "Basically, this new seed funding is an opportunity to support a more diverse range of rural activities. We're grateful to Whanganui District Council for the fund and would like to ensure that we use as much of it as possible to support community events."

The new Rural Community Grant Fund will allow the board to grant funding for applications of up to \$1000 per project. Funding applications for help with rural security cameras can also still be made under the new fund.



The board will review the uptake and effectiveness of the new fund following the local body elections this October.

The former Rural Security Camera Fund has been successfully run by the board since 2017. To date, the fund has supported the installation and management of 13 cameras across the Whanganui district to help in the reduction of rural crime.

Rural community groups who would like to apply for funding from the new Rural Community Grant Fund can find more information and an application form at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/WRCB
If you have any questions or would like further details, please email: Democracy@whanganui.govt.nz

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

The Whanganui Rural Community Board is elected by the district's rural community to represent and advocate for local rural issues.



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