



LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Media Release

17 March 2006

Last opportunity for submissions on the proposal to establish a Rotorua Lakes Community

Submissions on the proposal to establish a Rotorua Lakes Community close on 24 March 2006.

The Local Government Commission has called for submissions on the proposal, following receipt of an appeal against the decision of the Rotorua District Council to not establish a Rotorua Lakes Community. The Commission is now required to determine whether or not the Community should be constituted.

Commission Chief Executive Officer, Donald Riezebos, advised that a small number of submissions has been received to date.

“With the submissions period closing next week, it is timely to remind those with an interest in the proposal that if they wish to express to the Commission their views then they need to lodge their submission by 24 March”, concluded Mr Riezebos.

Community boards assist with the wider territorial authority governance and representation of a community, but are neither a local authority themselves, nor are they committees of the council. Community boards are unincorporated bodies, which are directly funded by the council.

Elected at the same time as the council, a community board usually consists of 5 or 6 members (including one or more councillors).

The role of a community board according to section 52 of the Local Government Act 2002 is to—

- Represent and act as an advocate for the interests of the community it represents.
- Consider and report on all matters referred to it by the council.
- Maintain an overview of services provided by the council within the community and make an annual submission to the council about the council’s expenditure within its community.
- Communicate with community organisations and special interest groups in the community.

- Undertake any other responsibilities delegated to it by the territorial authority.

A map of the area in the proposed community can be found on the Commission's website: www.lgc.govt.nz

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