

# YMCA CHRISTCHURCH 2018

## Social Responsibility One Island of Good

A massive achievement for the Y in 2017 was to see our documentary One Island of Good selected for the NZ International Film Festival – during which it screened multiple times across the country. The documentary was, at its core, a piece of work by the YMCA which aimed to give a voice to young people who have been excluded from mainstream education. A chance to tell their story, the good and the bad, but most importantly with context around how the education system in NZ is inhibiting young people to be successful in education. The YMCA strongly believes that education is an

important ingredient to long-term success and breaking cycles of inter-generational unemployment and poverty. Currently, the education system does not serve 13-16 year olds who have complex needs well. The YMCA cared so much about this issue we invested a significant amount of money, along with a number of very generous sponsors, into shining a light on the inequity that exists – and asked the question of viewers if this is right in a society that is based on egalitarian values. The film was well received and will be available online in 2018.



## Volunteers

32,000+ hours per annum



- Children's Programmes
- Outdoor Education Programmes
- Sports, Events, Governance

Investing in the Next Generation  
Reanga mō muri hāpaitia





## From the YMCA Board of Trustees

### Steve Clarke (President)

The YMCA is led with our core values at the centre of what we do, and we are very proud of our people and the diversity of viewpoints they bring alongside their seemingly never-ending ideas about how to move the Y forward in an age of exponential change.

We spent a lot of time and energy in 2017 laying the foundations for our ambitious future plans as we get further into the detail of the extensive development we will be embarking upon on our central city site. The estimated cost of the final development is near to \$40 million – which we must ensure is timely, relevant, and inspirational for the next 50+ years.

A highlight of 2017 was our scoop of wins from the annual NZ Recreation Association sector awards. The Organisational Excellence and the Environmental Leadership awards for our capability in outdoor education, and the Supreme Leadership award for our CEO – this national recognition of our achievements a testament to the hard work of our team. On behalf of the Board of Trustees I want to thank our CEO and her very dedicated staff, who have driven the YMCA forward with energy, enthusiasm and close attention to our mission and values. 2018 promises to be another great year investing in the next generation.

## Financial Performance

### Year Ended January 2018

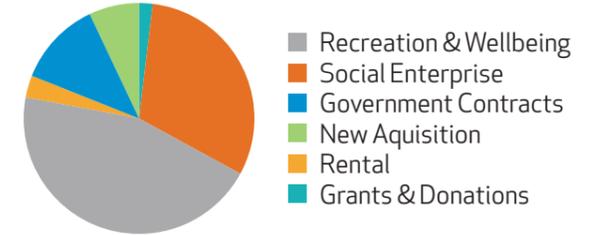
We have ended the year with a bottom line of \$337,326 which is very rewarding after the hard work put in. However it should be noted that operationally we fell short of budget, with an overall loss of \$231,581 after depreciation. Current markets in the area of outdoor education and health & fitness are competitive.

Christchurch is still recovering from earthquakes which has an impact on the perception of potential tourists - and consequently our accommodation had a quiet winter. So, our core social enterprise activities have not achieved their optimum results. Combined with continuing

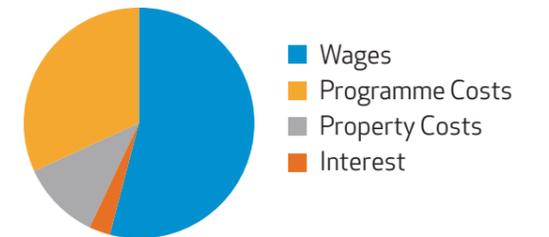
pressure from Government funders to improve outcomes without the requisite uplift in investment, many areas of our business finished the year on a loss.

We have however made some excellent improvements in terms of productivity and outcomes of our programmes, participation levels are rising and feedback from those participants gave us a net promoter score of +68. We are very grateful to our many business sponsors who enable us to achieve more and more each year.

#### Income | \$7,903,480



#### Expenses | \$7,566,154



(See [www.ymcachch.org.nz](http://www.ymcachch.org.nz) for full audited accounts)

## Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Centre

### A new opportunity for the YMCA

In 2017 the YMCA was entrusted with the Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Centre – a centre that has been an active contributor to environmental education in the South Island for many decades. We are honoured and humbled that the exiting trustees of the Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Centre Trust recognised the YMCA's commitment to outdoor education by giving us this opportunity. The lodge at Arthur's Pass is the only camp located in a National Park - it is an alpine camp which provides group accommodation and environmental outdoor education for school groups. It's location in the Southern Alps provides a range of walking and tramping options and the alpine environment a classroom

that is unparalleled in the urban environment most children are familiar with. We are grateful for our close collaborative relationship with the Dept of Conservation who actively work with us to ensure the learning is current, relevant and engaging.

"Outstanding camp leaders, motivating and encouraging our students while also being well informed. Fabulous stay thank you!" - Fiona, from Van Asch School

The YMCA is absolutely PUMPED about delivering world-class environmental place-based education at Arthur's Pass and continuing the amazing legacy built up by the previous Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Trust Board.



[www.ymcachch.org.nz](http://www.ymcachch.org.nz)





## From the Chief Executive Officer Josie Ogden Schroeder

How do we describe an effective YMCA? We could start by describing the many things we do – yet we would fill a book and still the reader would be left wondering what makes us different to others who provide similar programmes or services. So we therefore must start with why we do what we do – which is to make the biggest difference for people, families and communities not just now but for future generations.

In 2017 we were very proud of our 70th Carols by Candlelight event in Christchurch. This is the only large scale event occurring on Christmas Eve in NZ, attracting up to 20,000 people, and this has been produced by the YMCA of Christchurch for seventy years

running. The irony is that what started seventy years ago as a fundraising exercise for the YMCA has become an important annual event for our city – and now we are in need of financial support to keep it going! We are still looking for a business partner to ensure this iconic and much loved event - which speaks to our Christian values and heritage, the magic of Christmas and the importance of family - continues for future generations.

You will read snippets in this annual report which aim to give an impression of the cause of our organisation – investing in the next generation. We are determined to continue a legacy - a legacy of YMCAs being front

and centre in the development of young people and supporting the broader communities in which they exist - despite the enormous exponential change facing the world, and the challenges this poses for the future of work. When you are in the business of thinking about what the future holds, so as to ensure everyone is ready for that future – that next generation – then relevance becomes a straight forward question. For example, by the end of 2018 we will have opened our unique 4C centre – a tech hub aimed at young people which will have in mind the ‘future of work’

and be a place where anyone can engage with technology to learn, to prototype, to advance their own aspirations.

Part of the future, and our relevance into that future, is our relationship with others in our community. We cannot achieve anything without collaborating with others. The YMCA is enormously respectful of, and grateful for, the support, counsel and guidance we receive through our close relationships with others in the diverse sectors in which we operate.

A key challenge for us moving forward is how we meet the needs of Maori within our programmes and services, how we engage with Tangata Whenua in the context of a long history of colonized leadership, how we demonstrate through our leadership an ability to move toward a more bi-cultural approach to working for the people of Christchurch.

I am personally very appreciative of the Y staff and volunteers, who never cease to give of

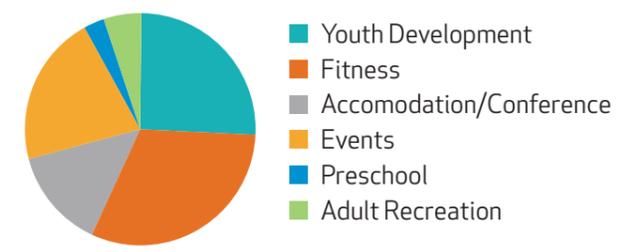
themselves because they believe in our cause and the values we stand for. We are looking forward to another full and exciting year investing in the future.

**He waka eke noa**  
*A canoe which we are all in with no exception*

# Te Whakapono, Whakanuia te Tangata, Te Kawenga Atu, Atawhaitia



## Total Participations 355,000+ per annum



# Health & Wellbeing

## Fitness, Dance and Adventure!

A core pillar of the YMCA's way of making a difference for people, families and communities is to provide accessible and relevant opportunities for people of all ages to be physically active. There are a broad range of services and programmes that deliver to the goals of our participants, and one shining example is Life Fit – a member cohort of older adults who exercise together as well as support one another as friends. In 2017 a group of Life Fit members cycled the 183 km Alps to Ocean cycle trail from Tekapo to Oamaru

- an amazing achievement that has resonated as an experience of challenge, belonging, shared experience and wellness by those involved.

Thursday Club is a group of adults with special needs who meet weekly and have outdoor camps – the activities are the medium for socialising outside of the care homes where they reside. Thursday Club is a clear example of YMCA mission and values in action.

At the other end of the age spectrum we offer lots of opportunities for young people – the Flying Geckos partners with the Y to support young rock climbers to develop their skills – many of our Flying Geckos are National champs in the sport. And when we are not developing elite skills we are taking children on a journey into the unknown. Many of our campers at Wainui

or Arthur's Pass get first-time experiences in the outdoors and back indoors we saw 17 low-decile primary schools engage with our Dancing Like the Stars programme – where they were taught how to dance and ultimately performed for their whanau at the Isaac Theatre Royal! Wow!



# Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Caring



## Youth Empowerment

### Young People Creating Impact

The World YMCA created a global youth leadership development programme to empower young people to be change makers in their own communities. These 'change agents' are young people from Ys around the world who by obtaining skills and understanding at a global level are better equipped to strengthen the Ys they come from and enable their Y to serve more young people in a way that is relevant to their needs.

YMCA NZ's change agent is none other than YMCA Christchurch's Mahalia Pilgrim, aged 20, who through this programme is participating in innovative and life-changing experiences which are giving her a global context to youth programmes we deliver here in NZ. She works with our young leaders who are the next generation of YMCA citizens not to mention future leaders for our city. (See People of the YMCA overleaf for more on Mahalia).

In December 2017 the YMCA and PAINT brought Christchurch Street Prints Otautahi, our 3rd consecutive street art festival – which resulted in 10 more large scale murals around the city. However the best aspect of Street Prints Otautahi was the mentoring relationship that

was forged between ten young people (between the ages of 14 and 19) who were selected to work alongside the international street artists throughout the festival – learning more about the craft and culture of street art and being part of the art making process. The apprentices also created artworks that were exhibited at the YMCA and sold to the public. (See overleaf for a story about one of our apprentices).

The YMCA believes strongly in the long-term outcomes that can be achieved when young people are given the opportunity to achieve on their own terms. In a world where most things that young people do are assessed and measured against the achievements of others, the street art apprentice programme allowed young people to indulge their creative ideas and talents without any agenda. FinDac, one of the artists who comes from Ireland and travels the world painting murals for a living, commented that there was enormous satisfaction and pleasure working with Jacob (a student at ARA) because it allowed him to give back as an artist to the next generation of artists.



## Key Funders



Christchurch City Council



Rātā Foundation

