

Graduate Diploma in Not for Profit Management

This is a qualification for managers, coordinators and board members working in Community, Voluntary and Tangata Whenua organisations. Designed with busy managers in mind, this is a part-time programme with six day courses in two blocks of three days. The programme consists of eight courses exploring the fundamentals of managing in a complex community setting.



For the Hamilton, Rotorua, Tauranga region in 2010 we are delivering the programme with the support of Community Waikato at their office in 33 Victoria Road, Hamilton

The first introductory course

- **Values Based Management and Leadership in the NFP Sector** March 29 – 31st March & April 26 – 28th

We also are planning to deliver in Hamilton the following courses during 2010:

- **Financial Management** 26th – 28th May & 23rd – 25th June
- **Governance, Strategy & Stewardship** 21st – 23rd July & 18th – 20th August
- **Leading Teams** 15th – 17th September & 18th – 20th October
- **Leading Change** 27th – 29th October & 17th – 19th November

These courses run 9am - 4.30 pm each of the six days.

So what do some recent graduates say about some of the **benefits of this programme?**

For me this programme taught me the theory behind the practical knowledge I already had. It was enlightening to know that problems I had encountered had actually been documented by others and in some cases whole books written about them. It gave me a great understanding of the bigger picture, this is something that can be lost if you only work in your own circles all the time (Irene Mosley)

The Graduate Diploma course equips you with the necessary skills to complement experience gained to stay afloat in these often turbulent times. The course is very hands on, pragmatically grounded in the everyday experience of the NFP sector. All the course work revolves around developing assignments, projects and resources that will improve your organisation and your own performance. It is highly relevant and appropriate to your every day needs.

It is very hands on but the theoretical underpinnings of the teaching are also emphasized. The course materials including readings, research, tools and templates are of an extremely high quality, capturing best practice examples from Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally resulting in the student having a veritable library of resources to draw upon and one to return to repeatedly as required. (Stuart Gray)

But how did you find the time in a busy workload?

I liked the short block courses, that was far easier to manage than a paper that required work the whole year. I blocked out my diary for the days needed and knew that after that time, there was no more commitment needed. (Irene)

Barriers of time always exist and the busiest people as we all know get the most work done. Commitment, discipline, organisation and being clear about where you are going are required to be successful in the course but these skills or qualities are just as necessary in most other areas of life and so are not insurmountable. The programme allows you to go at your own pace. When I could cope I did 3 papers in one year, when I started a new job I dropped this down to one a year but it was always very manageable. (Stuart)

What was it like going “back to school” later in life?

The learning environment is very collegial, you are working closely often in group settings with other managers and leaders of organisations. The value of this learned experience cannot be underestimated and the relationships, knowledge shared and created can sustain your working life. The rich networking opportunity

allows you to engage with people who are in similar positions often facing similar issues, sharing knowledge and developing workable solutions together.

The teaching style is accessible, cooperative and dynamic covering community leadership – leading and facilitating teams, people motivation, financial management, community funding, influencing policy, governance/strategy and leading change, an essential jig-saw that builds a comprehensive picture of the sector and its vital components. (Stuart)

What would you say to someone thinking about joining this learning community?

Go for it, I have thoroughly enjoyed the learning, the friendships and the networking that this programme provided. It would be one of the most useful courses I have ever undertaken. (Irene)

As senior leaders within organisations we must be committed to remaining open to learning and managing change.... much like what we might hope or desire for the clients/whanau that we work with: the responsibility of leadership. The learning community provided by the Unitec course helps equip you with the necessary experiences, skills, resources and relationships to become a more effective person and leader of change (Stuart)

What does it cost and how could I make it affordable for me?

The fees are \$636 per course, so that's just over \$5000 in total, spread over a number of years. You can apply for scholarship support towards these costs, but we would need to get your enrolment underway straight away, as demand on the scholarship pool is high.

OK, so I am keen, what do I do now?

You need to enrol NOW...here's the people and places that can guide you through that process:

- Go to Unitec's website www.unitec.ac.nz and search under GDipNFP or click on the link below, <http://www.unitec.ac.nz/?BAAC5FF7-9014-4C5E-9FA2-F1F2A1F9600B> for more detail about the courses, locations, scholarship application forms (look under quicklinks) and enrolment forms...or contact
- Shirleen Ali, the Programme Administrator in Auckland on nfpadmin@unitec.ac.nz or 09 815 4321 ext 5068 for guidance through the enrolment process
- Phone Hilary Star Foged 09 815 4321 ext 5069 or email on hstarfoged@unitec.ac.nz
OR
- Talk to Community Waikato, on 07 8381583