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**Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process:
An alternative planning and management tool**

A dissertation
submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the Degree of
Master of Applied Science

at

Lincoln University

by

T.H. Spittle

Lincoln University

2008

Abstract of a dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the
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Rural communities often have different community recreation opportunities than urban areas. The aim of this research is to examine one rural community's recreation opportunities and develop an alternative model for planning and managing these in the future. A qualitative methodology was adopted and key informant interviews were conducted. The key aspects identified as important for the success of, and resulting from, the community recreation opportunities in Tuapeka / Lawrence are: funding; decision-making; volunteering and community participation; social capital; land ownership and propinquity. These themes, alongside community-development and Recreation Opportunity Spectrum principles, led to the development of a model of community recreation processes which highlights the vital links between the community and the local government. By understanding the process that occurs for the planning and provision of community recreation opportunities, integrated and informed decisions can be made. The aim of the model's development is for use by communities and local governments alike to improve understanding of community recreation provision. This includes ensuring that community recreation is inclusive,

accessible to all, affordable and meeting the needs of the community. The combination of community development principles and the ROS (Recreation Opportunity Spectrum) into the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process (CROPP) offers a tool for use by local governments, and communities when planning and managing community recreation activities and opportunities.

Keywords: Community recreation, opportunities, rural, planning, management, community development, recreation opportunity spectrum, Tuapeka, Lawrence, community, local government, funding, decision-making, volunteer, participation, land ownership, social capital, propinquity.

Acknowledgements

From the outset of this research, I had the help and support of so many wonderful people. To know that I had people to turn to, seek advice from and discuss ideas with certainly helped me to retain my sanity throughout this process! Undoubtedly I will have missed someone from this acknowledgment, so please know that if you helped me in whatever way with this research that it was greatly appreciated

Firstly I would like to thank the many people who helped me in the research site of Tuapeka / Lawrence. A special thank-you to Larissa for helping me to contact the range of interviewees I did. To the interviewees who volunteered their time and knowledge for this research, your help and insights are greatly appreciated.

Secondly, I would like to thank Dr Clare Simpson for her role as supervisor for this research. Her professionalism, guidance and ability to push me to think outside the square in this process in every stage of this research has enabled me to develop a range of valuable skills.

Thirdly I would like to thank my fellow '*nerdlings*' who always managed to make me see the positive side of research. Jet, Erin, Rach, Mike and, of course, Dr Jude thank-you all so very much for throwing ideas around with me, checking my work and generally for being great people.

Also I wish to thank my family for being there and supporting me constantly. To be raised to always aim high and work hard are great virtues indeed.

Last, but by no means least, I wish to say the biggest thank-you of all to Johnnie for providing me with endless support, kindness and great humour over the last year. I could not have done it without having you there to listen, discuss and provide an outside opinion to this research. You are quite simply, the best!

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Chapter One: Introduction

I. Preamble

Introduction

Community recreation opportunities in New Zealand are invariably different between communities, due to diverse age, familial and cultural structures within the community. As a result of these differences, alternative planning and management techniques are necessary to ensure comprehensive provision of these opportunities. Rural communities have different community recreation opportunities than urban areas, primarily due to population differences (Dartington Amenity Research Trust, 1981). The purpose of this research is to examine one rural community's recreation opportunities and suggest an alternative model for planning and managing these opportunities for local governments and communities, both now and in the future.

Rural communities

By focusing on rural communities in this research, a voice is given to the population of New Zealand residing in rural areas. While the majority of New Zealand's population resides in urban areas, rural communities in New Zealand still account for over 10% of the total New Zealand population (Statistics New Zealand, 2006a). Legislation is often developed with a predominantly urban focus, and some could argue rightly so. However, consideration of the ramifications such policy may or may not have for rural communities also needs to occur.

Local Government

At present, community recreation opportunities are predominantly provided by local government organisations, due to their role in providing recreation infrastructure and facilities for the community (Wrigley, 1996). While this has not always been the case, changes in national policy have resulted in an increased role for local governments for community recreation provision. In many instances the inherent nature of the local government management style, both in New Zealand and other western developed countries such as the United Kingdom, is that of a 'top-down' authoritative approach (Butcher, 1994), resulting in recreation provided for what is 'thought' to be of

importance and significance to the community, often with little or no input from the community members themselves.

Despite this increased responsibility for local governments to provide community recreation opportunities for their respected communities, there has only been a limited increase in the financial or resource support from central government (Memon & Thomas, 2006). This has inherently produced a competitive environment within local government organisations for scarce resource allocation amongst the different aspects for which the council provides. While this could be argued as being a healthy state for local governments to be in, the very presence of such competition ultimately leads to communities missing out in some way due to the council not being able to fund some services. As discussed by Wrigley (1996), community recreation appears often to be the victim of this funding conflict, which is a paradox when considering that "...our society is moving towards a quality of life no longer judged on monetary wealth but the quality of leisure time that the populace experiences" (Wrigley, 1996, p. 16).

Theoretical Underpinnings

In this research, by combining community development principles with the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, (an American model for understanding recreation opportunities), and the key aspects apparent, an original planning and management perspective emerges regarding community recreation provision. This offers an alternative view to the 'top-down' management approach which appears to be currently occurring in New Zealand local government. The case-study community, Tuapeka / Lawrence in rural Otago, will be used to demonstrate the original planning and management perspective developed in this research of a rural community's recreation provision.

Community Development Principles

Community development principles are difficult to define as a single concept, yet they are easily recognisable when implemented. As will be explored more fully in the research, Jim Ife's (2002) interpretation of community development principles is used to develop an awareness of the process of community recreation opportunities in the case study area, Tuapeka / Lawrence. The identified community development

principles is then related to the development of the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process (CROPP).

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (Stankey & Wood, 1982) provides a framework from which recreation opportunities can be understood. Despite typically being used as a tool for the management of outdoor recreation opportunities, there exists an opening for aspects of the framework to be applied to community recreation scenarios also, as done in this research. The three key components from the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) which are used in this research are Activity, Setting and Experience.

Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process (CROPP)

The Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process (CROPP) is an alternative planning and management tool. By combining community development principles with elements of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, and identifying unique aspects of the community, the associated council, and the role each plays in community recreation opportunity provision, a new way of interpreting community recreation opportunity provision is developed in this research for Tuapeka / Lawrence.

While this is obviously not a model which will be immediately applicable to all communities throughout New Zealand, it does provide a beginning, from which improved understanding and recognition of the importance of community recreation to our communities in which we live, can develop. In this sense, the research provides an exploratory analysis of the community recreation opportunities of a small rural area and offers an alternative approach to understanding these opportunities by combining community development principles and elements of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

Research Focus

Population

Tuapeka / Lawrence¹ was selected for the research as it is a rural community with a range of community recreation opportunities which uses a community-led approach to create these community recreation opportunities. A range of research sites were initially considered, but due to personal knowledge, insights and connections with the Tuapeka / Lawrence area, it was selected for this research. The following will briefly introduce the key terms, concepts and study site used in this research.

New Zealand is a geographically isolated country located in the southern hemisphere, with a population of just over four million people (Statistics New Zealand, 2006b). Of New Zealand's population, one in seven (over half a million people) resides in either a rural area or a rural centre (Statistics New Zealand, 2001). Despite this representation, New Zealand is still considered to be an urban nation, which is reflected in New Zealand's public policy focus.

The focal point for this research shall be on the 'rural' aspect of society. Since Tuapeka / Lawrence is considered to be a rural area it is essential to define 'rural'. According to Statistics New Zealand (2001), a rural area is defined as those which are "...not specifically designated as 'urban'. They include rural centres and district territories where these are not included in the main, secondary or minor urban areas and inlets, islands, inland waters and oceanic waters which are outside urban areas" (p. 21). The concept of a rural centre has also been defined and this is recognised as being "...statistical units defined by complete area units. They have a population of between 300 – 999...identifying these settlements enables users to distinguish between rural dwellers living in true rural areas and those living in rural townships or settlement" (Statistics New Zealand, 2001, p. 19). The distinction between a rural area and a rural centre affords greater accuracy when discussing rural issues.

¹ Through the course of the research it became apparent that in this rural community, the town and the area were often thought of synonymously. The result of this led to the use of the term Tuapeka / Lawrence throughout this paper, as from the research it became impossible to distinguish between the two. Lawrence represents the rural township and Tuapeka is the greater area in which it is situated in the Clutha District.

Definition of Community

Community is a core concept of this research. The discussions below are centred on what constitutes a community. Early limited definitions of community focused primarily on geographic location as the deciding factor for defining a community. However, as knowledge has grown it has become widely accepted that a community is formed from other factors than just spatial location. Before continuing, it is important to recognise that simply defining community is highly problematic (Bell & Newby, 1971) as there are circumstances in which meanings will be determined by the circumstances they are ascribed in. In light of this, the interpretation offered of community is applicable to this research and should not be considered as an all-encompassing definition applicable to other situations.

Throughout history, human beings have relied on fellow man for survival, whether it was in the form of the tribe, extended family members, fellow villagers or church members (Ife, 2002). These forms of social provision have led to the formation of communities that are still present in the world in which we live today. Casswell (2001) similarly identifies community as 'social space'. Utilising this concept of social space and developing it further, for the purpose of this research, community will be understood as "...some form of social organisation with the following five related characteristics ...human scale ...identity and belonging ...obligations ...gemeinschaft ...culture' (Ife & Tesoriero, 2006, p. 96). As identified by this definition, communities have distinctive qualities from one another.

Each community is unique. The recognition that communities are ever-changing and interactive results in the knowledge that they are difficult to conceptually apply models and theories to (Haistead & Lind, 2002). Therefore, each will need alternative approaches in dealing with community relations, local capacity and sustainability (France, 1999; Glyptis, 1989). Due to this difficulty, this research shall attempt to apply a conceptual framework to the case-study community of Tuapeka / Lawrence, yet it will still bear in mind that findings applicable to the case-study community may not necessarily work well in other communities.

Definition of Recreation

Recreation is an inclusive and multifaceted concept which can be defined as “...voluntary non-work activity that is organised for the attainment of personal and social benefits including restoration and social cohesion” (Kelly & Freysinger, 2000, p. 18). The focus on the individual and the social in this definition of recreation highlights the importance of recreation for the health and wellbeing of a community as a whole and the citizens as individuals.

Community recreation in New Zealand exists; it only requires us to look around the communities in which we live to acknowledge this fact. Community events, activities, and facilities that are accessible to the general public are considered to be community recreation. Examples include: community gala days, fairs, art projects, sports (competitive and social) and clubs such as Toastmasters or Bridge. Community members’ involvement in recreation activities, as both participants and volunteer organisers, is a vital aspect to the functioning of most community recreation opportunities (Wrigley, 1996). One interpretation of how an individual comes to be associated with community organisations and affiliations within their community could be that “...as people grow into adulthood they normally assume family responsibilities. They also often sink social roots in the communities where they are living, forming personal friendships and becoming involved in clubs and associations” (Roberts, 1975, p. 190). A further development of this view is that some community members may feel a sense of obligation or duty to become involved.

II. Research Purpose

Research Objectives

This research investigates the community recreation opportunities within a particular rural area, Tuapeka / Lawrence, and specifically the identification of factors that enable the Tuapeka / Lawrence area, which has a population of 2200 people, to introduce and sustain the range of community recreation opportunities that it has. As New Zealand is considered to be predominantly an urban nation, there appears to be few rural community studies focusing on community recreation opportunities. As a result the research questions are as follows:

- 1) What are the key variables that have influenced community recreation opportunities in Tuapeka / Lawrence?
- 2) How is community recreation provided, funded and managed in Tuapeka / Lawrence?
- 3) To what extent is community development relevant for the Tuapeka / Lawrence area?
- 4) Does the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum key elements of Activity, Setting and Experience apply to community recreation opportunities in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area?

Chapter Outline

The research will be presented using the following format. In Chapter two a review of the relevant literature will be presented. Included in this will be the theoretical contexts in which the research work is grounded, namely: Community Development principles and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

The third chapter will place the research into context, primarily by introducing the sample site and then providing an account of community recreation changes in the area over time. An historical account will also examine the policy changes which have affected recreation in New Zealand.

Chapter four will discuss the method used to investigate the research questions and the rationale behind it. This discussion will be focused primarily around the case study approach selected for the research. Data collection and analysis techniques will also be presented at this stage.

Chapter five will present the key aspects which have been identified from the research data as being important for community recreation opportunities in the area. These themes include: funding, decision-making, volunteering and community participation, social capital, landownership and propinquity.

Chapter six will examine the potential for community development principles, the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum and the key themes to be considered together as an

alternative planning and management process. The Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process (CROPP) will be introduced as an example of this alternative approach. The potential for use of CROPP shall also be discussed.

Chapter seven will conclude the findings of the paper by discussing the implications the CROPP model may have at a pragmatic and theoretical level. Following this a brief discussion shall take place with regard to future research in the area of community recreation opportunities in a rural setting.

III. Chapter Summary

An introduction to the research has been made in the chapter. The combination of community development principles, the recreation opportunity spectrum and key aspects from the research findings will be presented. An examination of the key theories will now be discussed.

Chapter Two: Literature Review

Within this research there are two key theoretical contexts which have guided it, namely; community development principles and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum. Social capital and neo-liberalism further influence the research to a lesser extent. These shall each be discussed in turn; however, the two key theoretical contexts are discussed first.

I. Primary Theory

Community Development

The concept of community development has become popular amongst social and development workers most predominantly since the end of the Second World War (Christenson, Fendley, & Robinson, 1994). It is difficult to define, yet easily recognisable when implemented. According to Christenson (1994) there is a continuing intellectual struggle to identify community development; what it is, what it should be and how it should be done. This struggle is encapsulated within much literature that has been in existence over the last thirty years, including for example, the *Journal of the Community Development Society* and the *Community Development Journal*.

Defining community development

Despite community development being a difficult concept to define, the following authors present a good starting point. Casswell (2001) offers a definition of community development in the form of a differentiation between community action and community development. While community action is attempting change in social structures and systems, community development aims wider to empower communities through such changes (Casswell, 2001). Bhattacharyya (cited in Hustedde, 2002, p. 6) defines community development “...as the process of increasing solidarity and agency; solidarity meaning to build shared identity within the community. Agency, in this instance, means the ability of the people to order their world.”

Jim Ife – Community Development

A further development of the above definitions, Ife (2002) goes one stage further by defining community development as an incorporation of a range of vital principles. The core categories of these principles are: Ecological, Social Justice, Valuing the Local, Process and linking the Global to the Local. These principles will provide the basis for the framework of integrating community-development principles with the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum. Community-development, and the subsequent community-based approaches to public service provision base on the concept of community development, is of relevance as often the very people within a community are those who know best what they need. This recognition and value of the local is a vital aspect to a community development approach to community recreation. Community development is also recognised as a clear example of enabling greater social capital (Blakely & Suggate, 1997) which will be discussed later in this chapter.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

Planning and managing recreation opportunities can be a difficult and onerous task for planners and managers alike. Basing decisions on user numbers has proven to be an ineffective mechanism for managing recreation opportunities, therefore the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) provides a framework by which recreation and leisure can be understood (Stankey, 1982). Initially developed in the United States of America in the context of outdoor recreation management, this framework incorporates the concepts of recreation setting, activity and experience (these three concepts will be used further in this research with the development of the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process). Historically, recreation planning and management has focused solely on the numbers using the setting, or participating in the activity. While these figures are undoubtedly important, they miss out a vital link of recreation, namely visitor satisfaction or quality of the experience (Stankey & Wood, 1982).

Development

The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum originally developed from the expectancy-valence model (Driver, Brown, Stankey, & Gregoire, 1987). This model recognises the relationships amongst settings, activities and experiences which the users perceive they may have from their chosen recreation opportunity. The expectancy theory was

initially developed by Viktor Vroom for use in understanding motivations of employees (Vroom, 1995). The expectancy-valence theory, as applied to the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum can assist in understanding why people choose the recreation opportunities they do, the extent or level of satisfaction gained from the recreation activity and the level of performance or skill in the chosen recreation activity. In this respect, therefore, the expectancy-valence theory provides an understandable platform from which the ROS was developed.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum - Use

The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) provides an opportunity for managers and planners of recreation to test preconceived assumptions and objectives (Clark, 1982). Planners and managers are also required to manage resources and settings to avoid conflict amongst users, which the ROS can help with. By considering that recreation is more than just activities or areas, greater opportunities for a broader range of recreation opportunities can occur (Clark & Stankey, 1979).

Despite the ROS traditionally being developed for land-based, resource recreation management, elements from the spectrum are applicable to community recreation also. As (Stankey, 1982) notes, while the ROS has little experience in community or urban settings, the basic concepts and principles are applicable. An example of this shall be indicated in the alternative management perspective for this research. The underlying principle of ROS is that quality recreational experiences can best be assured by providing a diversity of recreation opportunities (Clark & Stankey, 1979).

II. Secondary Theory

Social Capital

Pierre Bourdieu

The secondary concepts associated with this research will now be examined. The concept of social capital was first developed by the late French sociologist, Pierre Bourdieu, who was the first modern-day author to systematically analyse the concept of social capital. Bourdieu defined social capital as “the aggregate of the actual or potential resources which are linked to possession of a durable network of more or less institutionalized relationships of mutual acquaintance or recognition” (Bourdieu,

1985, cited in Portes, 1998, p. 3). Social capital can therefore be broken into two elements: firstly, that social relationship allows individuals to lay claim to resources of people they are connected to and, secondly, the resource quality and quantity.

For Bourdieu, family is at the heart of determining social capital; the reproduction of capital depends largely upon the primary social unit, which is the family. The sanctity of the family unit is reinforced through such examples as the Church and the State (Bourdieu, 1998). Outside of the family nucleus, the concept of 'social capital' can be recognised as being understood as the collective management of the capital by the members. Take a country club for example, whereby members bring an accumulation of capital, such as networks of influence, thus creating a sum which is held in place by the relationships of the individual members, who may lay claim to calling upon this wealth of capital when needed (Bourdieu & Wacquant, 1992). Thus, Bourdieu's interpretation of 'social capital' can be interpreted as the valued relations people share amongst one another in a range of forms, including familial associations, leisure contemporaries and work colleagues.

Development of social capital

The term 'social capital' has developed from being commonly associated as an individual asset, to one that encompasses features of communities, and in some instances, nations (Portes, 1998). James Coleman developed the concept of social capital from his research into school and community relations. Here it was proposed that the community type affects the school which exists within it, and consequently the 'social capital'. Therefore, 'social capital' is understood as being the community norms, values, collective ties and trust and the way in which the group interacts in light of these (Lindenberg, 2003). It is here that an apparent shift from Bourdieu's previous work into 'social capital' is notable. Bourdieu identified 'social capital' as a resource "that individuals possess in various quantities and qualities, which can be used strategically to gain access to other, especially economic resources" (Turner, 2006, p. 558). In contrast to this, Coleman recognises the group and collective nature of 'social capital'. This heralds the beginning of the divergent paths which the concept of 'social capital' has taken over the last twenty years.

Robert Putnam

Contemporary American political scientist Robert Putnam (2000), has defined social capital as being the parts of peoples' daily lives that count the most, such as the networks between people and how these influence the tendency to help each other in various circumstances. His earliest works identify social capital as the following:

Like other forms of capital, social capital is productive, making possible the achievement of certain ends that would not be attainable in its absence...For example, a group whose members manifest trustworthiness and place extensive trust in one another will be able to accomplish much more than a comparable group lacking that trustworthiness and trust...In a farming community...where one farmer got his hay baled by another and where farm tools are extensively borrowed and lent, the social capital allows each farmer to get his work done with less physical capital in the form of tools and equipment (Putnam, 1993, p. 167).

This example identifies the pragmatic approach used to identify social capital by Putnam. His most recent work identifies social capital as being both a 'private good' and a 'public good', with benefits to both the individual and the group as a collective (Putnam, 2000). However, the application of the term most prevalent in his research is that of the public good or the benefit to the community, region or a nation as a collective (Turner, 2006). Putnam argues that the development of 'social capital' is the way in which communities, regions and nations are able to develop 'civic virtue' and in turn greater amounts of 'social capital' (Putnam, 1993). This is highlighted by three key benefits Putnam expresses as resulting from 'social capital'. Firstly, it is a mechanism in which collective problems can be solved more easily; secondly, 'social capital' makes people more trusting and trustworthy resulting in communities advancing more smoothly. Finally, 'social capital' broadens the way in which people in a community understand each other, namely by widening our awareness of one another (Putnam, 2000). This concept of social capital is important for understanding the research results and, consequently, is also an important aspect of enabling the understanding of Tuapeka / Lawrence's community development.

Neo-liberalism

Definition

The concept of social capital has inadvertently been incubating in a period of governments in advanced capitalist countries adopting neo-liberal political regimes. During the seventies political leaders throughout the developed world began embracing neo-liberal ideals, such as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (1979 – 1990) and Ronald Reagan as President of the United States of America (1981 – 1989). “From these several epicentres, revolutionary impulses seemingly spread and reverberated to remake the world around us in a totally different image.” (Harvey, 2005, p. 1).

Effects

Neo-liberalism saw the withdrawal of state support from many facets of everyday life (especially welfare) resulting in increasing levels of individual responsibility. It also resulted in an ever-increasing market rule, which can be demonstrated in New Zealand’s society through the collapse of the Welfare State under Ruth Richardson and the National Government which replaced the fourth Labour Government. Under this change to the welfare state people must now prove their right to welfare entitlements (Levine & McRobie, 2002). In relation to recreation and leisure, the impacts of neo-liberal policies can best be demonstrated through the rise in sport professionalism, privatisation of school funding and the ever increasing focus of government on the health benefits associated with physical activity, rather than the benefits of non-physical types of recreation in general (Gidlow, Cushman, & Perkins, 1995; Sport and Recreation New Zealand Act, 2002).

III. Chapter Summary

This chapter has outlined the theories which have driven the research. The implication of these theories shall each be discussed in greater detail. The discussion shall now move to place the research in context by discussing the geography of the research area and also the historical context of the influence central government policy changes have had on community recreation.

Chapter Three: The Context

The geography and history of Tuapeka / Lawrence shall now be introduced. The historical context of the influence central government policy changes have had on community recreation will also be discussed.

I. Tuapeka / Lawrence

History of the Area

The Junction

Tuapeka / Lawrence is located south-west of Dunedin in the province of Otago. Tuapeka represents the rural area in the district known as the Clutha District, and Lawrence represents the main centre of the Tuapeka area. The town of Lawrence was originally known as ‘The Junction’, formed from where the Tuapeka and Wetherstons Streams meet. Later, however the town was renamed Lawrence after Sir Henry Lawrence who was killed defending British interests at the Indian War of Independence in Lucknow in 1857 (Clutha District Council, 2006).

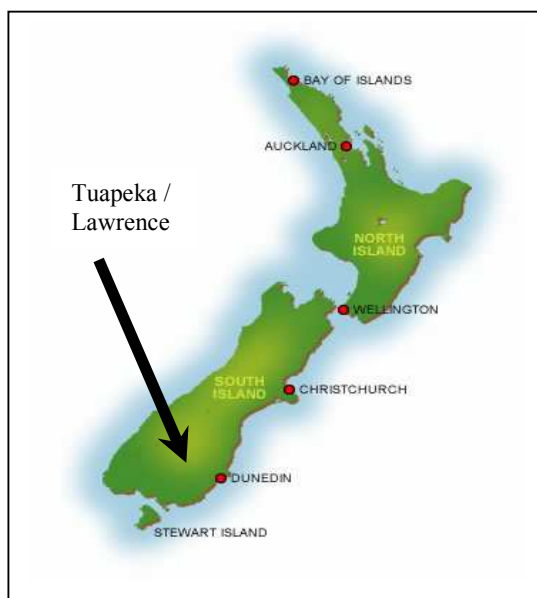


Figure 1: Location of Tuapeka / Lawrence in relation to New Zealand (Map of New Zealand, 2006).

The Early Settlers

An early pioneer of the Tuapeka / Lawrence area was George Munro who initiated the first leasehold of the land surrounding and including Gabriel's Gully in September 1853. March 1858 saw Edward Peters, a casual labourer on a nearby farm, (referred to commonly as 'Black Peter' due to his Eurasian ethnicity) first find gold while digging postholes on the property. His findings, alongside Alexander Garvie's surveying party were not widely publicised and it was not until May 1861, when Australian-born gold prospector Gabriel Read made a gold discovery in the Tuapeka district that New Zealand's gold rush began. This resulted in an estimated ten thousand people working on the diggings by the end of the year (McLintock, 1966; Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company, 2006).

Gold Rush

The finding of gold signalled the beginning of a new era for the Tuapeka District. Until this stage the interior of Otago had been relatively uninhabited and it was only in the late 1850's that the area was first surveyed (Watters, 1965). Gabriel's Gully became the most well-known gold field discovery of them all; however, prosperous finds were also reported at Wetherstons, Waitahuna Gully, Adams Flat, Waipori and Munro's Gully (Clutha District Council, 2006). As an entity, they constituted the Tuapeka Goldfields. After the initial alluvial stream-bed gold rush was over, many of the miners moved on. In their place Chinese immigrants came. They were shunned by European miners and consequently set up camp on the outskirts of Lawrence. Despite facing phenomenal tax rates, the Chinese arrived in large numbers and reworked river beds and isolated sites along the river, gleaning the gold missed by the early miners (Clutha District Council, 2006; Watters, 1965).² On July 20th 1866, Lawrence was created a municipality with borough status. By 1866 the gold rush in the area was petering out with a gradual decline through until the 1930's when it ceased altogether (Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company, 2006).

² The Lawrence Chinese Camp is today, the earliest and most important Chinese heritage site in New Zealand and is currently undergoing an exploratory archaeological survey with the aim of re-creating a replica of the village on-site (Clutha District Council, 2006).²



Figure 2: Gabriel's Gully present – day. This was the most well known of the Otago Goldfields in the mid 1800's (Author's Photograph, taken 23rd January, 2007).

With the decline of the gold-rush the population that had once inhabited the area diminished as miners moved on to other areas and opportunities for agriculture became apparent. It is from this period on that Lawrence gradually became the rural area that it is known as today.

History of community recreation in Tuapeka / Lawrence

Gold-rush settlers

Recreation, or play time, is a part of humans' lives regardless of location, activity, gender or ethnicity. The early gold miners to the Tuapeka gold-fields were no exception to this. To relax and unwind from the treacherous and sometimes dangerous work undertaken in their quest for gold, the miners would generally partake in activities that were equally physically and mentally demanding. These included frequenting drinking saloons, gambling dens and billiard rooms where their competitive natures would shine through. Often the result would end in brawling, unruliness and other deviant behaviour (Mayhew, 1949). Regular sports tournament days were held, often with work stopping for the day for rest and relaxation. Sports of all kinds were played including running races, jumping, quoits, pole jumping, sword

dancing and tossing the caber. Night time would see the shanty town spring to life with impromptu music and singing (Mayhew, 1949).

Post Gold-rush – Agricultural Influence

As time progressed organised forms of sport and recreation became established. The first public library in Lawrence was opened in 1868, with a range of serious literature being purchased to line the shelves. Rather than being built to entertain or amuse, the library was built for the purpose of education (Mayhew, 1949). Wrestling matches, horse-racing carnivals, athletics events, cricket teams, bowling and tennis were all sports which developed in the area during this period also. The Lawrence Rugby Football Club was slow to develop compared to other sports in the area, but the first rugby match was recorded as occurring in 1884 (Mayhew, 1949). Swimming, cycling, gymnastics, hockey, A & P shows and dog trials became popular recreational activities in the lives of those living in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area to some extent during the early 1900's. Many of these activities are still evident today (See Appendices 1 and 2).

Often these recreation activities represent how a working activity can be utilised as a form of recreation, known as work-sport competition (Tipples & Wilson, 2007). A regular example represented in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area is that of dog trials, an activity which would typically be restricted to the farm. Work-sport competition is not only for the benefit of the individual, it also helps to promote the community, the industry, relevant production techniques and commercial enterprises.

Tuapeka / Lawrence today

Current demographics

Today the population of Tuapeka / Lawrence is significantly smaller than it was 130 years ago. According to the latest statistics from the 2006 census, the population of the Tuapeka / Lawrence Area has decreased over the last ten years (refer to table 1). This declining trend is one which the area has faced for a number of years.

Table 1: Resident Population (Census Night) of Tuapeka Lawrence

Resident population:	1996	2001	2006
Night of the Census			
Lawrence	522	462	456
Tuapeka	2037	1830	1761
TOTAL	2559	2292	2217

(Statistics New Zealand, 2006a)

Despite the declining population, the community resolve appears to strengthen when faced with adversity; this is evident in their commitment to the provision of community recreation opportunities.

Ethnicity

Ethnically, the population of the Tuapeka / Lawrence area is notably different to that of the rest of New Zealand. According to 2001 census data (2006 data not available at time of writing this) 97.9% of people in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area identify with a New Zealand European ethnic group. On a national level 80.1% of New Zealanders claim to be of European ethnicity (Clutha District Council, 2007).

Familial Structure

The make up of the households in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area is different to national trends also, which is reflected in the age statistics for the area.

Table 2: Age & Family make-up of the Tuapeka / Lawrence Area

	Tuapeka Area	Clutha District	New Zealand
Under age of 15 years	27.6%	23.1%	22.7%
Over age of 65 years	7.3%	12.8%	12.1%
Couples with child(ren)	48.0%	44.6%	42.1%
Couples without child(ren)	45.1%	44.4%	39.0%
One parent with child(ren)	6.9%	11.0%	18.9%

Sourced from Statistics New Zealand 2001 census data cited in (Clutha District Council, 2007)

A key finding from table two is the above average national percentage of children under the age of fifteen, which is reflective of the higher than average statistics of couples with children in the area. This indicates a predominance of family-living arrangements in the area. Also the lower numbers of adults over the age of 65 indicates that the Tuapeka / Lawrence is not an area that people choose to retire to. This could be due to the relative isolation the area has for amenities and services that the over-65 population may be seeking. While Lawrence does have a hospice / rest home / permanent doctor, for specialist health-care the nearest facility is Dunedin, located over seventy kilometres away.

II. History of community recreation policy in New Zealand

Pre-1937 Policy

Government policy changes at a national level have altered the course of recreation over the last 120 years in New Zealand. The following discussion presents the key policy changes which have had an impact on community recreation opportunities, which will be referred to later in the discussion section of the research. Historical developments of New Zealand's sport and recreation policies can be dated back as far as the *Education Act* of 1877 (Perkins, Devlin, Simmons, & Batty, 1993). This act identified that all primary aged school children were required to attend school, and that sport and fitness was to be a part of the school curriculum to ensure the development of healthy, disciplined and productive community members. This utilitarian and citizenship focus of sport and recreation continued on until the first Labour Government, which came into power in the middle of the Great Depression during the mid-1930's (Perkins, Devlin, Simmons, & Batty, 1993).

In 1937, the *Physical Welfare and Recreation Act* was passed. Around the world there had been recognition by the state of the importance of physical health and well being of community members through the implementation of similar legislation, including in England, Australia and Canada. The *Physical Welfare and Recreation Act* (1937) had the explicit aim of promoting healthy recreation activities throughout New Zealand with a particular focus on the young (Stothart, 1980). The likelihood of New Zealand going to war meant that there was a strong utilitarian focus on the promotion

of physical activity and physical fitness (this utilitarian focus is similar to that of the purpose of future legislation, nearly 50 years on). By preparing the nation's youth for the possibilities of the future, the government was controlling and grooming the youth for preparation of potential home-guard duties. In light of the economic climate with the Great Depression occurring, the importance of increasing levels of citizenship through sport and leisure was recognised as being an important factor to the legislation.

The legislation of the *Physical Welfare and Recreation Act* (1937) was hindered by the onset of World War Two. Issues with the change of government in 1949 resulted in fewer resources available and hence, the legislation never had the opportunity to prove its worth. It was not until 1973 that the legislation was revised, and the *Recreation and Sport Act* (1973) came into being.

1973 – 1992 Policy

When Labour was elected to power in 1972 they followed up on their proposal and created the 1973 *Recreation and Sport Act*. This resulted in the creation of the Ministry of Recreation, and Sport and a Council for Recreation and Sport as the advisory body to "...promote, encourage and initiate programmes and policies for the benefit of all New Zealanders" (Stothart, 1985, p.47). The campaigns associated with this legislation included The 'Come Alive'; and The 'Don't just sit there, do something!' campaign (Stothart, 1985) which focused on community level recreation. This focus on community development was evident throughout this period as the positive benefits of citizenship and community were recognised.

In 1975 the National Party elected to parliament, immediately raising concerns regarding the financial assistance available at a local, regional and national level for community recreation. Changes by the National Government included funding cuts and reductions, resulting in an overall funding reduction under the National Government for recreation and sport in New Zealand. National Party members associated campaigns such as 'Come Alive' as Labour initiatives and consequently they were ended prematurely (Stothart, 1980).

The fourth Labour government (1985) reviewed the recreation and sport programme in New Zealand (Perkins, Devlin, Simmons, & Batty, 1993) and ministerial reports were written which provided the basis for the subsequent legislation changes (The Recreation & Sport Act, 1987) for recreation and sport. These documents were titled '*Recreation and Government in New Zealand: Change in Relationships*' and '*Sport on the Move*'. Due to the significance of the changes heralded by these documents, a brief summary shall be provided for each.

The '*Recreation and Government in New Zealand: Change in Relationships*' report written by The Community Services Institute (1985), suggested the need for a change in the relationship between New Zealand recreation and government. In effect it was recognised that, in the previous twelve years, there had been a duplication of tasks between the Council for Recreation and Sport, and the Ministry for Recreation and Sport. The report proposed the devolution of power from central government to the local level, so decisions could be made at a level closer to where they would be occurring. This offered a system that would be nearer to and possibly simpler for, the relevant community. Recreation was recognised as being an important part of society at that time and was identified as "...an activity through which an individual may experience and enjoy leisure." (The Community Services Institute Inc, 1985, p. 9). It is important to note that at this stage recreation still included passive forms of recreation. The new approach proposed a central government function; (through the proposed formation of an independent Department of Recreation, Arts and Sports) a regional level function (consisting of twenty-two regions throughout the country) and a local level function. If adopted, The Community Services Institute Inc. (1985) proposals would have meant the disestablishment of the Ministry of Recreation and Sport and the New Zealand Council for Recreation and Sport.

The second report during this period (Sport on the Move) was written by The Sports Development Inquiry Committee (1985). This was written from a sports perspective and identified (as The Community Services Institute report did also) the conflict and doubling up of tasks between the Ministry for Recreation and Sport and the Council for Recreation and Sport. A noteworthy issue the report highlighted was the apparent conflict that many national sports organisations felt existed between sport and recreation; they felt there was a competition for resources between the two. The

authors did highlight, however, that the funds distributed during this period clearly favoured sports over recreation (The Sports Development Inquiry Committee, 1985).

Issues are raised regarding these two reports and how they impacted on and helped to form future legislation. The first of which is the simple fact of the timing of the two reports. They appear to both have been requested at the same time in 1985. Yet the Sport Development Inquiry (1985) states in the preface that it was submitted earlier in 1985 (than the original specified due-date), to enable the meeting of deadlines for policy priorities in 1986. This leads to questioning of why this happened and also if the earlier due-date had an effect on subsequent policy decision-making.

The second issue that is raised is the fact that there were two different agencies asked to complete the reports. The recreation report was put out for tender and completed by the Community Services Institute's team of consultants, whereas the Sports report was completed by an inquiry committee. This point of difference highlights possible differences in the way information was gathered, analysed and accordingly presented, thus the question needs to be asked of whether the same results would be found if the report was conducted from a recreation inquiry committee, and vice versa for the sport inquiry.

The third, and final, issue with the 1985 reports comes from the Minister of Recreation and Sport at the time, the Honourable Mike Moore. In his opening sentence of the Minister's Foreword of the 'Sport on the Move' report, he states "Sport is the one activity in which there is, and should continue to be, a place for everyone." (The Sports Development Inquiry Committee, 1985). The underlying theme behind this statement indicates that there is a predetermined belief by the minister that sport is the most important leisure past-time for New Zealanders. This is reaffirmed later in the report with the comment, "Sport is now not only everyone's recreation but also, for an increasing number, it is their livelihood." (The Sports Development Inquiry Committee, 1985, p. 25).

The *Recreation and Sport Act* (1987) was passed by the Labour government at the time as a way of linking key economic and social objectives. The mid-eighties saw a range of restructuring occurring in the economy of New Zealand (and marked the

beginning of the adoption of neo-liberal political practices) that had resulted in high and rising unemployment alongside other economic recession symptoms. From this legislation, the Hillary Commission for Recreation and Sport was formed, under which seventeen regional Sports Trusts were created. The Hillary Commission replaced the Ministry and Council for Recreation and Sport, and was set up as a QUANGO (quasi autonomous non-government organisation), in effect being at “...arm’s length from the government and [taking] only a facilitative role in service delivery” (Perkins & Booth, 2000, p. 323).

Two of the key functions of the Hillary Commission were to ‘develop and encourage sport’ and ‘develop and encourage recreation.’ (Recreation and Sport Act, 1987, p. 4). Yet when compared with the policy objectives of the Hillary Commission differences become apparent. The differences between the act and the objectives of the Commission highlights the interpretation issues associated with the term ‘recreation’, and it is clear this marks the beginning of the loss of non-physical recreation from the auspices of the Hillary Commission. Recreation was supposed to have been adopted under the newly developed QEII Arts Council, yet this did not happen. Questions can be raised as to why this was not picked up by officials; however, this assumes that the officials understood the difference between recreation and sport, which, as highlighted later is unlikely. While the aim of the legislation was still broad, it was to mark the beginning of the favouritism towards sports over recreation. As a result of the legislation the ‘Movin’ On’ campaign, Kiwi-Sport programme, and the Local Recreation and Sport scheme were developed (Gidlow, Cushman, & Perkins, 1995).

A further alteration in government brought more changes to recreation and sport legislation in New Zealand. In 1992 the National Party implemented the *Sport, Fitness and Leisure Amendment Act*. This resulted in the loss of recreation from the name of the Hillary Commission: it now became the Hillary Commission for Sport, Fitness and Leisure. This highlighted the economic and neo-liberal political climate at the time, where money was being spent by the government as a form of investment, rather than a form of expenditure. Arguments surrounding this change of legislation include the return to a utilitarian form of leisure policy, “...to produce physically fit, disciplined and productive citizens and to take advantage of the country’s elite sportsmen and women in overseas product and tourism marketing.” (Perkins & Booth,

2000, p. 323). This was similar to what had been implemented under the 1937 *Physical Welfare and Recreation Act*, which was noted earlier to have been implemented as a way of preparing the youth of the nation for the possibility of war. The move from providing recreation funding from a central government level through the Hillary Commission, to a local level via local government meant that, on paper, the removal of 'recreation' from legislation would not mean a loss of funding. The idea that recreation would not miss out under this, and subsequent, legislation is an idea which would be fiercely debated by those involved in local government community recreation provision.

The change of focus of the Hillary Commission by the National party was passed through parliament with relative ease. While the Labour party did query the Bill, little was done in terms of questioning the definitions of the name changes. As Gidlow, Cushman and Perkins (1995) discussed, the assumptions made of the definitions of leisure, recreation and sport by the government led to the conflation of these terms in the *Sport, Fitness and Leisure Amendment Act* (1992). The assumption was that 'recreation' must mean sport or physical activity. The consequence of this assumption was that passive forms of leisure were no longer provided for in the legislation.

The new legislation also meant changes for the Hillary Commission itself. Significantly the board was restructured, with numbers reduced from nine to eight members; and members who had been on the board leading up to the amendment act were required to stand down from their position (*Sport, Fitness and Leisure Amendment Act*, 1992). This raises issues regarding the continuity of the Hillary Commission's leadership and the rationale behind the National government wanting to implement such radical changes. This action suggests that either change was being made for change's sake, or for political manipulation.

Current recreation & sport legislation

In 2000, the Minister for Sport, Fitness and Leisure (the Honourable Trevor Mallard), requested a ministerial taskforce be set up "...to define the vision for sport, fitness and leisure in New Zealand for the next 25 years..." (Ministerial Taskforce on Sport Fitness and Leisure, 2001, p. 6). The taskforce delivered the 'Getting Set for an Active Nation' report in January 2001 and key recommendations were made which

aided in the development of the functions of the *Sport and Recreation New Zealand Act*, (2002). Throughout the report the terms ‘recreation and sport’ were used to identify three parts of the sector: sport, fitness and leisure. The term ‘recreation’ was identified as meaning physical recreation (Ministerial Taskforce on Sport Fitness and Leisure, 2001).

In 2002, the Labour Government implemented the *Sport and Recreation New Zealand Act*. The purpose of this act was to “...promote, encourage and support physical recreation and sport in New Zealand” (*Sport and Recreation New Zealand Act*, 2002). The changes to the legislation to create this policy came about largely from the Ministerial Taskforce on Sport Fitness and Leisure (informally known as the Graham Taskforce report) which focused largely on performance and participation. The resulting structure was the forming of Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC) which identified sport and recreation through: physical recreation, active leisure and outdoor recreation. Non-physical forms of recreation are expressly excluded from this legislation. The renaming of the Minister for Sport, Fitness and Leisure to the Minister for Recreation and Sport highlights the focus in which SPARC is heading in which excludes non-physical forms of recreation planning for recreation policy in New Zealand.

The Ministerial Taskforce report provided a strategic long-term view for sport and physical recreation in New Zealand. Regardless of a party’s political perspective it should (in theory) still be applicable. Yet the reality is that since the implementation of the act, Labour has been the governing party so their decisions have not been challenged. A change of government will not necessarily result in a change in policy for recreation and sport, but based on history it could be considered likely. Examples can be identified in the 1970’s and early 1990’s with the change in government from Labour to National and subsequent leisure, recreation and sport policy changes.

Sport and Recreation New Zealand

SPARC is now the Crown Entity responsible for sport and recreation in New Zealand. It was established on 1st of January 2003 under the *Sport and Recreation New Zealand Act* (2002). The previous functions of the Hillary Commission, the New Zealand Sports Foundation and the policy arm of the Office of Tourism and Sport were

incorporated into the new organisation. SPARC operates with a nine member board (appointed by the Minister for Sport and Recreation) who have the responsibility of maintaining the strategic focus of the organisation (Deloitte, 2006).

Creative New Zealand

An obvious national body which may provide for community recreation, as it is the obvious ‘passive’ to SPARC’s ‘active’, is that of Creative New Zealand. According to Creative New Zealand’s 2004 – 2007 strategic plan, their six strategic functions are, “about the mana of the arts, rewarding careers for professional artists, thriving professional arts organisations, cultural diversity in the arts, international growth for New Zealand arts, and participation in the arts” (Creative New Zealand, 2007). This highlights the focus of Creative New Zealand and the fact that Creative New Zealand does not provide a common community recreation provision either (*Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act*, 1994). Thus, community recreation is not directly legislated for in either the *Sport and Recreation Act* (2002) or the *Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act* (1994). In spite of this however, the *Local Government Act* (2002) does have indirect provisions for community recreation within it.

Local Government involvement in community recreation

As the above discussion highlights, there has been a significant shift in recreation policy in New Zealand over the last forty years. The question remains of how community recreation opportunities are provided for within a community and the answer is that the provision is increasingly falling into the hands of the Local Government.

A key purpose of the *Local Government Act* (2002), provides for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach (*Local Government Act*, 2002). This statement incorporates community recreation also; however, the extent to which local government authorities are responsible may be negated by the statement ‘broad role’.

Due to funding issues it is becoming apparent that within rural communities there is a great deal of ‘grass-roots’ community recreation management rather than council led

initiatives. As Glyptis (1989) identified, much of the recognition of the needs of rural communities is concerned with that of urban-dwellers coming to visit the rural areas rather than the rural communities themselves. While this is stated from a British context, it is also relevant for rural New Zealand, as often concern in rural area is directed at attracting tourism to an area more explicitly than providing for community members.

The *Local Government Act* (2002) recognises the importance of the local government in providing opportunities for community wellbeing for the people of a community, of which recreation is a part. In spite of this however, “Local authorities are allowed, but not required, by statute to plan for recreation. The result is that in most cases, particularly in rural areas, there is very little commitment to doing so” (Perkins & Booth, 2000, p. 327). Changes to the policy guiding local governments have meant that there is increased focus for local governments to be responsive to their respected communities. As McKinlay (2005) discusses, the directive role of the legislative changes to create the *Local Government Act* (2002) was “...not of council to exercise more control over their communities, but of communities to exercise more control over their councils” (p. 3). Effectively, this highlights the development of Third-Way political philosophies (Memon & Thomas, 2006) which focus largely on participatory democracy and the empowerment of communities.

Public service provision

By seeking an improved understanding and organisation of the world in which we live, the empowerment of communities becomes apparent. The alternative view derives from the community approach to public service provision which is connected to the idea that the community knows best what it needs and wants; therefore, it should be involved in decision-making and planning. This differs markedly from the dominant post-war established or orthodox model of public service provision (Butcher, 1994, p. 6) which is characterised by:

- Centralised, top-down planning and decision-making
- Clear separation of policy-making from service administration and practise
- Large-scale bureaucratic organization and control of service delivery

- High levels of professional influence and power, even hegemony, in policy execution
- The ‘user’ of services as an individual consumer
- An emphasis upon standardised provision for reasons of fairness, economy and control

While the orthodox model of public service provision was likely to be the most suitable approach at the time when there were vast social and economic changes occurring, the applicability of this approach is increasingly recognised as having significant deficiencies. For example, certain groups of society are marginalised under the orthodox model, such as women and minority groups (Butcher, 1994). Some could argue that this is not of concern, however, because society is increasingly diverse and pluralistic, and as a result public service provision also needs to be. The main alternative view to the existing model of public service provision is that of a community-based approach.

Community-based approaches to public service provision relate to the fact that often the very people within a community are those who know best what they need. This recognition and value of the local is a vital aspect to a community-based approach. By understanding the significance of the community, a community-based approach to public service provision is logical and understandable. A community based approach to public service provision and management is largely underpinned by community development, as identified by Ife (2002) and the core principles of ecological, social justice, process, valuing the local and global and local principles.

III. Chapter Summary

The purpose of this chapter has been to introduce the research area and the political climate in which community recreation decisions have been made. Census figures from the 2006 census have helped identify key demographic data of the population presently living in the area, which subsequently affects the community recreation opportunities in the area. A history of the community recreation policy in New Zealand has been provided as a means of identifying the current climate of community recreation opportunity provision in today’s society. Historically, recreation and leisure have been a significant part of the legislation, however since the

Recreation and Sport Act (1987) the focus has shifted to ‘active recreation’ or ‘recreational sport’. This focus on the physical and active nature of sport and recreation has limited New Zealand’s recreation and sport policy, effectively excluding ‘passive’ forms of recreation that are so much a part of people’s daily lives. As Gidlow, Perkins and Cushman (1995) identify, passive forms of recreation alongside sport and recreational arts all contribute to a community’s integration. The method for data collection and analysis will be discussed in the next chapter which has underpinned the research.

Chapter Four: Method

Community recreation opportunities in Tuapeka / Lawrence have been researched using case study research methods. This chapter outlines the method used in this research in relation to the fulfilment of the research objectives. The data for this research was collected from early November 2006 to late February 2007.

I. Selection of research method

Upon beginning this research, the selection of the method used to collect the data was a challenging one. Limited research had been conducted investigating community recreation opportunities in rural areas; as a result the research conducted was exploratory by nature. Time and budget constraints meant that performing comparative analysis between rural communities was simply not feasible. Consequently, it was decided that the research would be focused on a single rural area and thoroughly investigate the community recreation opportunities available and, the planning, provision and management of those opportunities.

The decision which guided the research method selection was based upon an investigation into other similar studies of rural communities. It was found that the case-study method proved to be a successful option when conducting exploratory research in a rural context, both here in New Zealand, and internationally (Herbert - Cheshire, 2000; Johnsen, 2004; Liepins, 2000; Shucksmith, Watkins, & Henderson, 1993). As a result the case-study method was selected as being an appropriate tool for the research.

Case Study Research Method

A case study approach was selected to collect data of community recreation opportunities in the research area, Tuapeka / Lawrence. While it is recognised that there are conflicting beliefs regarding the validity of the case study approach as a scientific indicator, there are situations and circumstances whereby a case study can be utilised as a viable research tool. As discussed by George and Bennett, “Case studies examine the operation of causal mechanisms in individual cases in detail”

(George & Bennett, 2005, p. 21). Yin (2003) identified that while the case study method is not considered a popular or common social science research tool, it is utilised in a range of situations from academia, public policy, urban planning, social work and education. This breadth of use for a research technique highlights that the case study is a valuable method as it, "...allows an investigation to retain the holistic and meaningful characteristics of real-life events." (Yin, 2003, p. 3)

Single situation examination

Through the retention and close examination of a single situation, a case study approach enables researchers to closely examine phenomena in a particular setting. By examining community recreation opportunities in a rural area, the case-study method provides an opportunity to begin developing a tool to assist in the planning and management of community recreation opportunities in Tuapeka / Lawrence. This tool will enable greater understanding of the processes involved in creating community recreation opportunities, which may be of use in other rural, and possibly, urban communities.

Triangulation – Data collection Methods

For this research, two of the six common case study methods were used, creating a triangulation of the data collected (Yin, 2003). Triangulation, in this context, is understood as the convergence of multiple sources of evidence from which findings and conclusions can be drawn. The six common forms of case study methods identified by Yin (2003) are: documentation, archival records, interviews, participant observation, direct observation and physical artefacts. Triangulation ensures that the results and conclusions drawn are valid and reliable. The two forms utilised in this research are documentation and interviews. Documentation used for this research was the area and district weekly newspapers, and public council documents in the form of the Long Term Council and Community Plan the Physical Activity Strategy. In conjunction, interviews from the key informants enabled the assessment of the data to produce a triangulation method from which data and findings are drawn.

Key Informant Interviews

By undertaking key informant interviews (Lofland & Lofland, 1995) the research focussed on members of the community and the local council who held positions which influenced the community recreation provision decisions for Tuapeka / Lawrence. My personal local knowledge of the Tuapeka / Lawrence area meant that gaining access to the seven key informants was an easier experience than initially expected. Through previous work colleagues within the Clutha District Council, contact with two key informants linked the author through to the remaining key informants for this research. Through their recommendations and the author's research of the types of key informants that would provide the best range of information, people were interviewed who currently held positions of professional standing within organisations involved with community recreation provision.

Interview logistics

The key informant interviews were conducted over the space of a week on-site in the greater Clutha District. Contact was made with key informants prior to the holiday period of Christmas and New Year. Through this contact an outline of the nature of the research was emailed or posted to the informant (see Appendix 3). Where appropriate a meeting time, day and place were arranged at this point; however, due to the busy time of year for many interviewees, in most instances arrangement details were left to be finalised until the week prior to the interviews taking place. On most occasions, interviews took place in the interviewee's place of work. In several instances though, meetings took place at local cafés or an office at the Clutha District Council service centre located in Lawrence.

Structure

Due to the interviewer having contacted the interviewees on several occasions prior to meeting, there was a sense of familiarity in the interview structure, easing the way for informal and open interviewing. The interview structure was informal, enabling a degree of openness and accessibility to information from the interviewees to the interviewer. A pre-determined list of questions helped guide the interviewing (see Appendix four). While it is acknowledged that these are by no means a full-proof list of questions, they are an indication of the range of questions asked, ensuring that there was a minimum range of topics covered in each interview. This also ensured that

specific topic areas were covered by the interviewer with all interviewees, maintaining a consistency of results.

Limiting Factors

A recognisable limiting factor of the research is the reliance on key informant interviews, as they focus primarily on a single tier of community recreation provision. In light of the research objectives, however, it is apparent that key informant interviews were likely to be the most successful form of researching given the time constraints of the research. To broaden the research to all involved with community recreation, including providers and participants would result in the extent of the findings too large to cover in the confines of a single dissertation. Therefore, the limits were set to interview only those who held positions within the community which directly influenced or related to community recreation.

Documentation – Newspapers

Further data was collected from documentation sources, including weekly newspapers and Clutha District Council public documents. The *Tuapeka Times* is the weekly newspaper printed for the area of Tuapeka / Lawrence. The 52 editions from 2006 were read and information pertaining to community recreation opportunities within the area was collected. The information ranged from informal community notices outlining community recreation details to reports on events and specific activities. The editions were sourced from the local information centre which had them filed and publicly accessible. The *Clutha Leader*, which is the weekly district newspaper provided some further sources of community recreation reports. However, as the author did not have access to the 52 editions from 2006, there was only a limited amount of data collected from this source.

Public access local government documents

Public documents from the Clutha District Council were also a source of data collection, specifically the *Long term Council and Community Plan – LTCCP* (a requirement of the Local Government Act, 2002) and the *Draft Physical Activity Strategy*. Data was coded and analysed from both key informant interviews and documentation.

II. Data Analysis

Data collected for this research from both key-informant interviews and documentation were analysed after collection using the coding, memoing and diagramming techniques as discussed by Lofland and Lofland (1995). This resulted in the development of key theme areas which will be discussed further in chapter five. While these key themes appeared to be the most prominent from the collation of the data, it is imperative to bear in mind that qualitative research such as this can be affected by researcher / author bias. Therefore, the ensuing results and discussion sections of this research may reflect this. At all times the author has aimed to view the story of community recreation opportunities in Tuapeka / Lawrence from as many different viewpoints as possible to ensure that there is limited bias of the data analysis.

III. Chapter Summary

The case study method has been used for this research. Qualitative key informants were conducted with seven interviewees who held professional positions within the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. Further data were collected through relevant documents. Data analysis identified six key aspects to community recreation in the area, which will be discussed in chapter five.

Chapter Five: Results

I. Introduction

From the key informant interviews and the documentation, analysis of the data highlighted six key aspects present in the community recreation provision in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. These aspects can either be viewed as directly influencing the community recreation opportunities, or as being a result of the community recreation opportunities; this will be specified for each aspect discussed. By understanding these aspects, the research is one stage closer to meeting the identified research objectives. In particular this chapter will fulfil question one and two of the research questions, namely: What are the key aspects that have influenced community recreation in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area? And, how is community recreation in this area funded? In explaining each aspect, references will be made to the interviewee / s highlighting the particular theme.

This provision of community recreation services from a community or ‘grass-roots’ level has unique aspects regarding leisure provision. Much of the community recreation in Tuapeka / Lawrence is managed through steering groups, committees or boards which operate on a voluntary basis to provide a service or facility for the benefit of the greater community. The range of community recreation in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area is extensive and caters for pre-school age children through to senior citizens of the community (see appendix 1 for the Tuapeka / Lawrence community recreation group list.) The key aspects associated with community recreation leisure provision in Tuapeka / Lawrence are: funding, decision-making, volunteerism, social capital, land ownership and propinquity.

II. Key Aspects

Funding

Funding is a vital factor that can ‘make or break’ community recreation decision-making and provision, and therefore directly influences community recreation decisions. Tuapeka / Lawrence is no exception to the impact funding can have on community recreation provision. Discussions with key informants repeatedly

indicated funding and finances are issues that impacted on management-decisions facing community recreation opportunities in the area. For much of the community recreation in the area there is a strong reliance on grant or trust funding to meet financial obligations. Of particular significance are the Community Trust of Otago, the Kate Leslie Fund, the Lawrence Lions Club and the Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company. Each of these shall be discussed individually.

Community Trust of Otago

The Community Trust of Otago was established under the *Trustee Banks Restructuring Act* (1988). The purpose of the trust is ‘...to manage its investments which are to be applied for charitable, cultural, philanthropic, recreational and other purposes beneficial to the community, principally in the Otago region’ (Community Trust of Otago, 2004a). Since establishment in 1988, the Community Trust of Otago has donated over seventy million dollars to organisations and community groups based on six donations criteria; Education; Health and Community Welfare; Sport and Recreation; Art and Culture; Heritage and Environment; and Special Events including celebrations and festivals (Community Trust of Otago, 2004a).

For Tuapeka / Lawrence the Community Trust of Otago provides a constant source of funding for a range of community recreation activities. An example of the assistance the Community Trust of Otago provides to communities is evident with a recent grant to the Lawrence Golf Club, which is planning to build a new clubhouse for golf members as well as for use by the greater community as a function centre. Initial local fundraising efforts raised over \$300,000 in four years (Interview one, personal communication, January 23, 2007) through dairy and beef grazing, catering, stock drives and a significant donation from the Waitahuna Golf Club. The Community Trust of Otago contributed a further \$100,000 to complement the community’s efforts, and plans are in place for the clubhouse to be in use by the end of 2007 (Community Trust of Otago, 2004b).

Kate Leslie Trust

The Kate Leslie Trust provides another source of funding for community recreation within the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. Kate Leslie left money to the area that is today utilised for projects within and around Lawrence. Terms and conditions of the money

she left stipulated that, first and foremost, the money should be used for the upkeep of the Leslie family graves at the Lawrence Cemetery and, secondly, extra funds were to be used for the sporting and recreation needs of the community, and the beautification of the town (Clutha District Council, 2002). In present day financial terms the sum of the fund is significant, but only the income from the capital is available for distribution (Clutha District Council, 2002). Decisions regarding the spending of the Kate Leslie Trust fund were initially left to the discretion of the Lawrence Borough. However, in 1989, this was amalgamated with the Clutha Borough to form the Clutha District Council. The Tuapeka / Lawrence area was one of only two areas in the district to maintain a community board (the other being West Otago) and consequently the Kate Leslie Trust fund allocation decisions are now made by the Lawrence / Tuapeka Community Board (Interview seven, personal communication, January 25, 2007).

Lions International

Lions International promotes the motto, 'We Serve', which is adopted at a local, national and international level (Lions International, 2002). The Lawrence Lions club is a community-based group which aids in the funding of many other community recreation opportunities in the area, particularly opportunities for youth. Many of the key informant interviewees mentioned the work done by the Lions club as significant and beneficial to the wellbeing of the community. Examples of the assistance the Lawrence Lions club provides include a trail bike ride, a mountain-bike event, a 'Farmarama' field day, support at local community events such as the gymkhana, fair-days and rodeo, as well as financially supporting youth opportunities such as the Spirit of Adventure voyages (Interview one, three and six, personal communication, week beginning January 22, 2007).

Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company

The Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company was formed in 1990 as an incorporated society with a board of directors. The primary function of the company is as a vessel to provide and apply for funding for the community. A steering group was formed to oversee the direction of the company. While it has primarily focused on getting people to stop in the town rather than simply driving through, by efforts such as improved signage and information distribution, community recreation improvements

are still a key aim for the Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company (Interview three, personal communication, January 23 2007).

By increasing the numbers of visitors stopping in the area, facilities and amenities for the community are improved, consequently enhancing the area for the community members themselves. An example of this is the improved hiking and cycling tracks around the town and the neighbouring Gabriel's Gully which, while used by tourists, are often utilised by community members too.

Decision-Making

Decision-making for the provision of community recreation services in a rural area can be an onerous task due to the significant funding limitations and trying to fulfil complex recreational desires and needs of the individual. The Tuapeka / Lawrence area is no exception in this regard, yet they appear to constantly overcome this issue through engaging in collaborative decision-making (Ife, 2002). An exemplar of collaborative decision-making in the area, according to key informants, is that of the formation of the Simpson Park sporting complex. In 1977 an idea was put forward to the community to create a universal facility and sports ground that could be used by local sports and clubs. This suggestion grew into a shared goal by many in the community and those involved with the Lawrence Area School, as they could all see the benefit of working together rather than operating each sports club individually.

“So that was just one of the things in the last generation that we have achieved and shown good community co-operation.”

(Interview three, Personal communication, January 23rd, 2007)

Difficulties

As mentioned by the above quote, community co-operation is a key part of collaborative decision-making within the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. This community co-operation meant that sixteen autonomous sporting bodies from the area were catered for in the designing, planning and construction of the Simpson Park sports facility.

“A lot of those 16 might be a little thinly veiled, like there might have been a boxing group that was just there and no more, but we had to accommodate for them and you had to work for everybody, like there was a dart club around and we had to have 20 plugs on the wall for the dart boards, so you see these now all dotted around the hall. They went defunct in the end. But the big thing was that we didn’t have any blowups, as that can happen when there are so many people involved...”

(Interview three, Personal communication, January 23rd, 2007)

Collaborative Co-operation

Not having any ‘blowups’ as interviewee three mentioned is significant as it enhances the concept of collaborative decision-making as a successful strategy. The very act of placing differences aside and working together to achieve a greater goal indicates that the Tuapeka / Lawrence area functions using community development principles as identified by Ife (2002). The Simpson Park planning committee also linked in closely with the Lawrence Area School, and subsequently, the Ministry of Education (or equivalent at the time), to ensure that the facilities were what the school required. The school and the Simpson Park committee still work in together to share costs and decision-making (Interview one, personal communication, January 22 2007).



Figure 3: Simpson Park, the sports complex and grounds fundraised by the community. (Author’s photograph, 22nd January, 2007).

Simpson Park

Despite the apparently ‘seamless’ melding of sports clubs in the area with regard to Simpson park, it would be presumptuous to anticipate that there is no lively debate or discussion regarding community recreation provision decisions in Tuapeka / Lawrence. As one interviewee explained it, while discussion and different opinions may exist regarding the provision of community recreation, ‘it is healthy to debate as the community is so varied’. Through keeping the question and overall goal in mind while making decisions, then reaching a conclusion, following through and implementing it, the community is then able to progress. (Interview four, personal communication, January 23 2007).

Collaborative Decision-Making

This attitude displayed by the key informants epitomises the collaborative decision-making of the area. This has resulted in an inclusive, community based approach to community recreation provision. This process encompasses the broad role of community development where communities take responsibility for their futures and goals, and implement strategies for achieving them.

Volunteering and Community Participation

Community Participation

Community participation in community recreation is what makes the events and activities so successful in the Tuapeka/Lawrence area, and without it many community recreation opportunities would not exist. A major factor in the extent of this community participation is the sense of community spirit and pride. Consequently this makes people realise that, to have the base services and amenities other areas, they need to be supportive of them. As one interviewee stated,

“ Since I have been here there has always been a very strong community spirit and if the call goes out for a community core service then it is what attracts people to live here and what makes them keep living there. They make it a good place for themselves to live and are happy to help out with the provision of those core services and things.”

(Interview four, Personal communication, January 23rd, 2007)

Volunteering

Linked very closely to the concept of community participation is that of volunteering. This theme is vital to understanding the community recreation of Tuapeka / Lawrence. Without the high rate of volunteerism that is so apparent within the community, recreation opportunities would be significantly limited. This ethic of volunteerism is for some undoubtedly a form of recreation in itself, as it offers people an interest outside of work, often following areas of interest that are intrinsic to them that they may not have the opportunity to achieve within their paid employment (Lengkeek & Bargeman, 1997).

“When they don’t know you here then they all sort of hang back a bit, but as soon as word got out of what I was offering to do and they begun to know me then it all really began to take off really...In the end I was having to turn kids away as I would have ended up with too many otherwise...”

(Interview two, personal communication, January 23 2007)

Interviewee two represents the concept of volunteering well, as Lengkeek & Bargeman (1997) identified above. Despite being new to the area, getting involved and volunteering personal time to provide a sporting activity for the youth of the area enabled the interviewee to meet a range of other people and to feel more accepted within the community. This was combined with a personal interest in the activity.

Another view relevant to volunteerism is that of understanding the link with globalisation. On an individual level, if a society places value on volunteers then more people are likely to become volunteers (Henderson & Presley, 2003). The individual and the community both have the opportunity to benefit from volunteerism. The individual benefits directly from volunteerism on a number of levels, such as fulfilling an intrinsic passion for the activity / event, meeting new people and becoming accepted into a community. From a community perspective volunteering benefits include ensuring a greater range of services and activities in the area, more fulfilled citizens who are more likely to know each other and consequently help one another and greater social capital; these concepts are discussed in further detail now.

Land Ownership

Land ownership is another aspect which influences community recreation of Tuapeka / Lawrence. In many instances land has been held by the same family for over three generations; therefore the ties held to the area are substantial for the family. A history of the area and the way things have been in generations past means that they have a longstanding commitment to the community. In 2006, for example, the community decided upon a new fundraising venture and held New Zealand's first 'Centenary Farms' celebration. The purpose of this event was to recognise those farms in New Zealand that had been within the same family for over 100 years. Proof was established by producing the original title deeds. The evening was a success and the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Helen Clark, presented the awards (Interview four, personal communication, January 25, 2007). Due to the success of the 2006 'Centenary Farms' evening, it is now in place to become an annual event.

Access to resources

A second way in which land ownership is integral to community recreation in this area is through a wealth of resources that farmers have access to. When resources are needed for fundraising or community-based activities, costs of community recreation activities often need to be lowered, resulting in land-owners volunteering not only their time but their resources too. An example includes the Lawrence Golf Club which held firewood chopping days to create a source of fundraising for their club (sourced from Community Calendar in appendix 2). Tools and heavy equipment such as chainsaws, diggers, bulldozers, tractors, trucks and trailers are made available for use, with the owner generally volunteering his / her time to operate such equipment. This results in significant savings for the community recreation activity involved, while also providing an opportunity for those from the farming community to gather and meet. Another example of this type of community initiative appeared when the community was building a new playground. The playground equipment was supplied by the Clutha District Council; to keep costs down rather than pay a contractor to prepare the site for the equipment, the local community and their pool of resources was called upon to do so (Interview four, personal communication, January 23 2007). This ability of the Tuapeka / Lawrence community, rural land owners in particular, to see the benefit of working together to minimise costs of community needs, indicates a cohesive 'philanthropic society' (Ife, 2002) . The land owners display a positive use

of their financial and resource wealth by actively facilitating projects and initiatives for the community, highlighting their altruistic inclinations (Putnam, 2000).

Social capital

Social capital can in its simplest form, be identified as being the links and networks between people and how these influence the people to help each other in various circumstances. It can be understood as being an effect which occurs because of community recreation in the area. Putnam (2000) argues that the stronger these links are the greater the social capital of a community. Community recreation provides an opportunity for these links of social capital between community members to be enhanced and consolidated.

Social Capital in Tuapeka / Lawrence

Provision of community recreation is highly dependant upon the type of recreation being provided, the size of the user group and the extent of the provision. These variables consequently affect the type of management provided for the service. For instance, in a city location, the range of activities and the breadth of service provided is generally far more extensive than the community recreation services provided in a rural location. In Christchurch, for example, due to the significant population differences (and consequently the significant differences in the rate-payers base) the range of services provided at a community level from the Christchurch City Council are numerous and extensive compared to those provided in Tuapeka / Lawrence by the Clutha District Council. Yet it is vital to bear in mind that, while Christchurch may have a greater number of services provided at a council level, the extent of community recreation provision in Tuapeka / Lawrence from a community level is quite remarkable given that the total population base of the area is 2200 people. This would mean, therefore, that the social capital of an area such as Tuapeka / Lawrence is likely to be greater than that of a larger centre like Christchurch, as more people know each other (and probably know each other well) outside of work and family, in part due to the range of community recreation available.

Propinquity

Propinquity is the final major aspect represented in the data for the Tuapeka / Lawrence region, and like social capital is a result of community recreation. The

meaning of propinquity varies depending on the circumstances of its use but, in general terms, it refers to, ‘the state of being close to someone or something, proximity, or close kinship’ (Pearsall, 1998). Hall (1987) expands on this the definition further and argues that propinquity is about community and how people come into contact with each other due to the very fact of their proximity. An important point he notes is that ‘...propinquity itself does not necessarily lead to the establishment of social relations; there has to be a need to have opportunities for contact and communication...’ (Hall, 1987, p. 36). This meaning was reinforced further through one key informant interviewee who stated the following:

“You are probably working together with people that in a city that you wouldn’t probably work with, like different ethnic, family or religious groups, and I guess because we are such a small community you work with people that you might not have anything to do with in a city as it is the way that you get things done in a small community, if you don’t work together then things won’t get done. Otherwise in a city you tend to mix within you own sort of group. It makes you co-operate with people well too. It is sort of what make this community tick along and get there, I mean there are always debates and it is healthy to debate as the community is so varied but the biggest hurdle is taking that debate and reaching a conclusion and moving on and getting it done, then that is what makes the community go forward.”

(Interview four, personal communication, 25 January, 2007)

Example of propinquity

Propinquity in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area can be associated strongly with community recreation, as for many the opportunity to meet with others and form social networks is during their ‘play’ time. For rural-based people often their nearest neighbour is located over two to three kilometres away, therefore limiting social interaction in and around the home to family members or employees. For people living within settlements such as Waitahuna and Lawrence, there is a closer proximity to their neighbours yet, as Hall (1987) has indicated, they have to have an opportunity to have that contact and communication with each other.

The age group of people within the community with the greatest propinquity are school children, since they see each other the most regularly. Through their interactions with one another on a frequent basis, there is the opportunity to develop strong ties amongst not only themselves, but also the families, relatives and friends who support their involvement. This is why youth-based recreation is such a strong part of the Tuapeka / Lawrence community as it provides the opportunity to increase propinquity ties amongst the youth and the greater social networks associated with the community.

III. Chapter Summary

The purpose of this chapter has been to outline the key aspects of the research findings of the Tuapeka / Lawrence research. The six key aspects identified from the data are funding, decision-making, volunteerism, social capital, land ownership and propinquity. While each of these has been explained individually in this chapter, it is imperative to keep in mind that there are overlaps and similarities between them. Funding influences much of the decision-making within community recreation in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. Volunteerism has links with social capital and land ownership, as does propinquity with social capital. Land ownership and the culture of volunteering in the area tend to go hand in hand and social capital is formed from this volunteering. Propinquity stems from the involvement of an individual with the community, which enhances the social capital also. The next chapter will present the discussion section of the research and will link the six aspects within community development and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

Chapter Six: Discussion

I. Introduction

The management of community recreation activities and opportunities in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area are commonly based on numbers of users; however this research offers an original, alternative approach based on the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) an American model, and the principles of Community Development. The purpose of this chapter is to discuss the research findings from Tuapeka / Lawrence with regard to the community development approach, developed by Jim Ife (2002), and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (Stankey & Wood, 1982) to community recreation. By understanding the process that occurs for the planning and provision of community recreation opportunities, integrated and informed decisions can be made.

This chapter will discuss the elements of the community recreation opportunity planning process (CROPP). The key aspects of the research as discussed in chapter five (funding, decision-making, volunteering, land ownership, social capital and propinquity) will support the argument for the importance of community development and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) as approaches for the Tuapeka / Lawrence community to fulfil their community recreation needs. This chapter is split into three sections. The first section will discuss the application of community development principles and elements from the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum to community recreation. Next, the second section will examine in-depth the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process. Finally, the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process will be discussed with regard to its broader application.

II. Community development, ROS, and community recreation

Application of Ife's community development principles

For this research the phrase 'community development' is based around Ife's (2002) work, which identifies a set of five principles that underlie a community development approach. These principles are not categorised in any specific order and they may be applicable in a range of community development settings, from the strategic or

analytical level to the daily running of a community project. They are designed for use in conjunction with each other, but the absence of one does not mean that the project will not work (Ife, 2002). Each of the five principles will be discussed and the most relevant aspects of each principle, with regard to the community recreation opportunities in Tuapeka / Lawrence, presented with supporting evidence from the interview data.

Ecological Principles

Ife's first category is that of '*Ecological Principles*'. Examples of which include holism, sustainability, diversity, organic and balanced development. From the research data holism and organic development have been identified as being good examples of ecological principles in the Tuapeka / Lawrence community. The first is through the holistic approach to community recreation that may foster a 'ripple effect' (Ife, 2002) whereby the functioning of one successful community activity is often due to the success of another. An interviewee explained a situation at the local gymkhana event that illustrates this idea. During this event, there was a tug-of-war competition amongst local teams. The winners of the competition won five hundred dollars in prize-money which they in turn, donated back to key local community organisations. Acts like this enhance the sustainability of the range of organisations available in the area.

Organic development (Ife, 2002) is another strong feature in community recreation opportunities and indicates that there is the opportunity for things to happen naturally, rather than being pre-planned and structured. A good example of this in Tuapeka / Lawrence occurred with the development of squash coaching for junior players. Up until 2006 there had been no opportunities for children to learn to play the sport as no-one was able to teach it. This changed, however, when a new coach moved to the area and volunteered their time to do so.

Social Justice Principles

The second category Ife (2002) identified is '*Social Justice Principles*' that incorporates, amongst others, the concepts of creating a fairer world through empowerment of communities and needs definition. Tuapeka / Lawrence do this well through a strong volunteering ethos amongst community members. Ife (2002)

identifies empowerment as meaning the ability of the community to improve their own future on the individual and community level. When looking at the economic environment in which Tuapeka / Lawrence functions, it is apparent that empowerment of the communities has been a key part of their success. The 1980's in New Zealand saw widespread economic downturn, largely due to the political introduction of neoliberalist ideals. Neoliberalism saw the withdrawal of state support from many facets of everyday life (especially welfare) resulting in increasing levels of individual responsibility, as discussed earlier in chapter two (Harvey, 2005). As a result, communities were forced to take responsibility for areas which had previously been provided for them by the state. In Tuapeka / Lawrence this resulted in an empowerment of the community, and the individuals within it to improve their own situation. "During the 1980's there was a massive loss of people from the area through loss of personnel on farms and things. There was a perception that key infrastructure such as the voluntary St Johns and core businesses wouldn't be able to exist as the people just wouldn't be here to run them. So people fought tooth and nail to save them and they have. And they also saved the policeman, the hospital and created Spencer Park" (Interview one, personal communication, January 25, 2007). Alongside empowerment is the concept of 'needs definition'(Ife, 2002) whereby the community identifies its needs and develops strategies to meet these. The above quotation recognises these needs as defined by the community such as the hospital, police and St. Johns ambulance service.

Valuing the local principles

Ife's (2002) third category of community development, is that of '*Valuing the local*' including local knowledge, skills and processes. This principle of valuing the local is a fundamental strength of the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. Local knowledge is likely to be of most value when a community is making informed decisions (Ife, 2002). Within Tuapeka / Lawrence there are numerous examples of local knowledge in relation to community recreation and a prime example is the Tuapeka / Lawrence Community Board which was formed when the county amalgamated to form the present Clutha District Council. The role of the community board is to represent the people of the area and to work with the community to ensure progress within the community. In regard to community recreation the community board helps to delegate money from

the Kate Leslie Fund to community applicants and also recommends areas for future council spending, such as town beautification projects and playgrounds.

The development of local skills is another area which Tuapeka / Lawrence is seeking to improve within the community. As one interviewee stated...“...that is another thing, leadership development, getting people to pick up on it and take on those roles, we don’t really have a problem with it in Lawrence. Sometimes you might think that you have but when you really sit down and think about it then it is clear that it is coming along really nicely” (Interview three, personal communication, January 25th, 2007). This indicates that local skills are being developed within local organisations. A particular strength of this could come from the fact that the town is ‘committee oriented’, “...it’s a funny thing really, we almost have more committees in this town than we have people...”(Interview one, personal communication, January 25, 2007). As a result, volunteering on a committee to help organise community recreation activities may be a form of recreation for some of those involved.

Process Principles

The fourth category of Ife (2002) is ‘*Process Principles*’. Examples of process principles include co-operation and consensus, and community building. An illustration of the process principles in effect in the Tuapeka / Lawrence community is that of the regular community public meetings held to discuss the future of the area. These meetings, advertised through the local newspaper, offered an opportunity for all community members to have their say regarding the future of their town. This highlights co-operation, consensus and community-building as efforts were being made to ensure that there was agreement within the community on the future of their area.

Global and Local Principles

The fifth and final category of Ife’s (2002) principles of community development, looks at ‘*Global and Local Principles*’ through raising awareness of the links between global and the local, and anti-colonialist practices. While data collected for this research did not directly relate to these principles, it is important to recognise the inherent applicability of them to any community situation. This is due to the fact that communities are affected by cultural, social, environmental, political and economic

factors both nationally and internationally. The local government, in this situation plays a pivotal role in linking the global to the local in a community recreation context, as they are the intermediary between the community and central government policies.

As is evident from the above discussion, community development principles are applicable in the Tuapeka / Lawrence community, and subsequently their community recreation. Whether intentional or not, the presence of these indicates that the value of the community itself is well-recognised, and decisions are often made based on significant community input.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) is a tool used by recreation planners to manage recreation experiences. As discussed in chapter two, ROS consists of three key components: Activity, Setting and Experience. These components assist recreation professionals to identify, plan and manage recreation resources by asking the questions: Where are we now? Where are we going? And where do we want to go? (Law, 1991). Traditionally ROS has been applied in natural resource areas such as parks and forests. In New Zealand, ROS has been extensively adopted by the Department of Conservation. This research explores a different avenue for possible use of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, in community recreation.

Purpose of ROS

The purpose of the development of the ROS framework was to provide planners and managers with a tool to determine the most appropriate resource allocation, and the fairness and equity of that resource allocation amongst various social groups (Stankey & Wood, 1982). According to Stankey and Wood "...a recreation opportunity is defined as a chance for a person to participate in a specific recreational activity in a specific setting in order to realise a predictable recreational experience" (Stankey & Wood, 1982, p. 6). Within the ROS framework the relationships among activities, settings and experiences are viewed probabilistically, "...reflecting the expectancy notion of expectancy-valence theory" (Driver, Brown, Stankey, & Gregoire, 1987, p. 208). Aspects of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum can be applied to in respect to

community recreation opportunities. It is useful as it forces recreation practitioners to carefully consider all aspects of the recreation experience.

Application to community recreation

From a community recreation perspective, ROS is potentially a model for the analysis of the opportunities available within a community. This form of analysis can assist a community and the relevant local government to systematically assess the facilities, activities, funding, management, planning, accessibility, inclusiveness and extent of community recreation available. Community recreation and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum are typically not associated with each other; however, this research identifies a useful way to examine community recreation by using the ROS factors of Activity, Setting and Experience. Community development principles provide a framework in which the identified ROS principles can be placed.

III. Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process

The following section presents a culmination of the research in the form of the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process model. This model has been developed as a result of the findings at Tuapeka / Lawrence (presented in the form of key aspects previously in chapter five) and represents a blend of ideas from the aforementioned community development principles and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum. It is a representation of the community recreation available in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area.

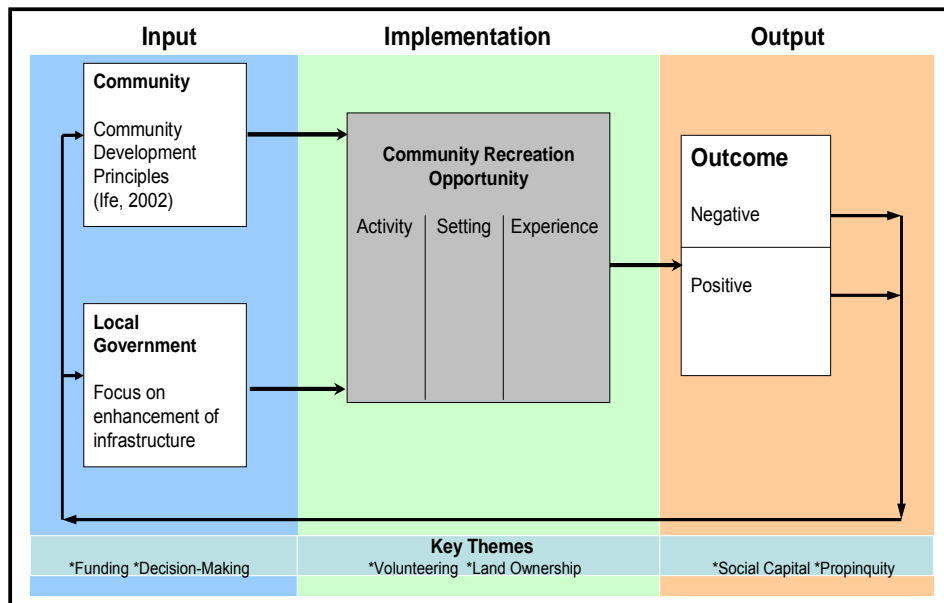


Figure 4: Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process, a development by the author using community development principles, elements of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum and key findings of the research.

Input Stage of the Process

The first elements of the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process (CROPP) are input from both the community and the respective local government. It is at this stage of the model that community development principles are clearly evident as planning for the provision of community recreation occurs here. The research data suggests that much of the initial decision-making for community recreation occurs within the community. It is after all the community who are best able to identify their own needs and desires. That is not to say, however, that the local government is not involved. The link between the two is vital to the provision and utilisation of successful community recreation activities, as often the very facilities in which the community recreation occurs, are council provided or funded in some form.

An example of the interaction between the local government and the community in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area is that of Spencer Park. While this is not a council owned facility, the council does contribute annually to the operating costs involved with it. The link between the local government and the community at this beginning stage of the model is of paramount importance. For this to be achieved, effective communication between the two is a key element to the success of the planning and provision of the community recreation on offer.

As Ife (2002) explained in his community development principles, co-operation and consensus enable the community to achieve and extend boundaries. Rather than have the community and the local government aim in different directions, for CROPP to be successful, there is an innate need for excellent lines of communication between the two. This link could be in the form of community meetings, council employees with the express role of ensuring open lines of communication, and / or regular involvement of liaising with the community for community recreation planning. In the Tuapeka / Lawrence area evidence of the communication between the community and the local government is clear through the role of the community board. Within the community itself, community involvement in decision-making is encouraged through open-invitations to public community meetings (see Appendix 2 Tuapeka / Lawrence Community Recreation Calendar) so members of the public can have their say. However, community and local government based community recreation decisions may also be made without consultation, and invariably this is likely to happen in some circumstances. To maintain a focused approach to the provision of community recreation opportunities though, it is beneficial for this consultation to take place.

The two key themes which underpin this stage of the model are funding and decision-making. Funding of community recreation effectively results in the success or demise of the activity. Inextricably linked to funding is decision-making, as the reality is that if the funding does not exist then the idea for the activity is not likely to develop. For the Tuapeka / Lawrence area the funding available at present appears to be meeting the community's recreational needs. Yet this is a limited way of viewing the success of the decision-making and subsequent funding, as it is only viewing that which has been provided for. No account is being made for the community recreation which is not being provided due to a lack of funding. To recognise the 'gaps' of the community recreation opportunities being provided, it is therefore, timely to delve farther into what is being provided to understand what is missing. This is achieved by moving through the model to the second stage of the community recreation opportunity planning process.

Implementation stage of the process

The community and the local government decisions regarding community recreation planning and provision affect the community recreation opportunities. What is

available within the community can be framed within the three components of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum: Activity, Setting and Experience. Within each of these sections there are a range of subheadings which further identify what exists and what is lacking in the community recreation provision.

The first component from the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum in the implementation phase of CROPP is activity. This is relatively self-explanatory and is identifying what the activity is. Examples of community recreation activities in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area include swimming, rugby, golf, play-centre and craft groups.

Setting is the second of the ROS components in the implementation phase of the model. Setting accounts for more than just the geographic setting in which the activity takes place, it also includes the setting of the activity in terms of management, decision-making, funding, number of participants, number of volunteers, total numbers of those involved with the activity, the target population of the activity, average age and gender of those involved, inclusiveness and accessibility, amongst others. By recognising that the setting is more than just the geographic location of the activity, further details of the activity can be recognised. Thus, enabling details of the activity to be identified and interpreted which otherwise may be at risk of preconceived ideas and prejudices.

The third and final element of the implementation phase of CROPP is that of the experience itself. The activity and the setting in turn lead to the experience from the community recreation activity. For the purpose of this research the simplest way to describe this is through that of a direct and an indirect recreation experience. A direct recreation experience is one which you expected to have from a certain activity performed in a certain setting. In contrast, an indirect recreation experience is one which an individual was not expecting as a result of their involvement with the activity. An example of this could be the involvement of a parent in a child's sporting interest. The child is expecting a recreation experience from the sport in which they are participating, the parent, on the other hand, may feel they are attending merely as support person for their child, but their involvement can lead to an unexpected recreation experience. This latent recreation experience is likely to be a reason for the significant community involvement by some members of the community, contributing

to the wealth of community recreation opportunities available. It is this community involvement which leads to volunteering and community participation, identified earlier as being a key aspect of the community recreation in Tuapeka / Lawrence. Linked to this is the theme of land ownership, due to the wealth of resources and skills available for community use. Together these themes highlight key aspects of community recreation opportunities.

Outcome stage of the process

The third, and final, stage of the community recreation opportunity planning process is that of the outcomes from the community recreation experience. It is at this stage that the ramifications of the community involvement are felt through the development or demise of social capital and propinquity, depending upon the outcome experienced. A positive outcome is likely to extend from a positive community recreation experience and continue on the development of the community recreation activity in the same manner.

In contrast, a negative community recreation experience may lead to a negative outcome for the individual and the community, resulting in community recreation opportunities not progressing. Using the example of a play-centre, a new mother and child to the area may be welcomed along to participate in the weekly meetings. If the setting and the activity lead to both mother and child having a positive recreational experience during their time at the play-centre meeting, they are likely to return and build networks with others attending. This leads to the development of social capital and a likelihood that in the future they will return to the play-centre and be more likely to assist with voluntary activities to maintain the play-centre and subsequent facilities. In contrast to this, if the mother and child feel they had a negative experience from their time at the play-centre then they are less likely to participate in the play-centre and the subsequent voluntary activities associated with it.

As the arrows on the CROPP show, the flow of the community recreation opportunity is circular. In this sense there is not a point when the process is complete, as there is an ongoing requirement for community recreation opportunities to be monitored and analysed to ensure that the needs of the community are being met. Therefore, at the outcome stage of the process the arrows, regardless of a negative or positive

experience, and then flow back around to the community and the local government who are responsive to the outcome and the assessment of the needs within the community.

IV. The Usefulness of CROPP

The Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process described above presents an original use of elements from both Community Development principles and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum. Together they provide a snapshot of the community recreation opportunities available in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area. This snapshot demonstrates the role of both the community and the local authority in providing the range of community recreation opportunities available. In recognising the relationship between the council and the community, an understanding of both the supply and demand of the community recreation opportunities can be gained. From this understanding, maintenance and monitoring of the recreation opportunities can occur as a framework exists in which the findings or situations can be placed. In light of this the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process is a pivotal first step in the development of community recreation opportunities in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area.

It is recognised that CROPP is representative of a single case study, therefore, specific generalisations of the benefits it may have to other communities are limited. A primary reason for this is that no two communities are alike; variations may occur across a range of social, economic, political, environmental and cultural factors. In chapter three, some unique aspects of the Tuapeka / Lawrence community were identified which highlight this point. These were that, in comparison to national averages from 2001 and 2006 Statistics New Zealand census information, Tuapeka / Lawrence had noteworthy familial, age and ethnicity differences within the community. In particular there were more couples with children and a higher proportion of children aged under the age of 15 years living in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area, and ethnically over 97% of the population identified themselves as being New Zealand European / Pakeha in comparison with the national average of 80%. These differences, amongst others, affect the range of recreation opportunities in

an area and stress the point that each community has unique facets to it. The beauty of the CROPP model, however, is that it allows for these differences as the community development principles and elements of the recreation opportunity spectrum are adaptable. This adaptability shall now be discussed in a broader application of the both community development principles and the recreation opportunity spectrum to the community recreation opportunity planning process. The following will discuss these elements individually in greater detail.

Community Development

The underlying theme with community development is that it involves the community taking an active approach to solving issues, working toward agreed outcomes and / or improving aspects of their community life. It is vital to recognise that community development is occurring within many different contexts, other than community recreation, in both New Zealand and internationally. It also applies in social, education, health and economic related issues. An example of an economic use of community development can be found in the Department of Labours' Occasional Paper series in which community development is identified as being a bottom up approach that recognises '...that local input into solutions is likely to promote sound outcomes.' (France, 1999, p. 10). Despite the Department of Labour mainly focusing on community development as a means of targeting labour market disadvantage, it highlights the significance of the approach and the applicability it has over a range of situations.

Community development is also offered as a means of improving understanding of rural communities. Herbert-Cheshire (2000) argues that the predominant issues in this field are associated with 'incorporating strategies for the sustainability of the economic, social and cultural spheres of rural life.' (p. 203). It is through this identification of sustainability in the rural way of life that it is becoming increasingly important to recognise that quality of life in rural areas must be represented through more than purely economic forms (Long, Allen, Perdue & Kieselbach, 1988).

Lloyd and Auld (2002) found that people who interact on a regular basis through social activities, and comprehend that they have satisfying experiences from their leisure opportunities, are more likely to have higher perceived levels of their quality

of life. It is not surprising; therefore, that recreation is becoming a factor in determining community and personal well being for people in rural areas. As people have become better educated, their attitudes to non-work time has altered, resulting in greater expectations of the recreation services they are being provided with (Long & Kieselbach, 1987).

A separate point to note regarding community development is that for some local and central governments it provides an opportunity for the withdrawal of funding from community activities (Ife, 2002). The purpose of community development is to ensure that the community is taking control of their future, yet this still requires assistance from local and central government, and in relation to community recreation this is also the case. A reciprocal relationship is needed between the community and the local government to ensure the success of the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

The elements of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum found in the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process are of use for community recreation practitioners regardless of the community in which they are providing the service for. These elements are the activity, setting and experience. Individual discussions of each of these have been made previously in this chapter; however, the ROS principles of activity, setting and experience will be discussed to confirm the role they can play in the provision of community recreation opportunities.

For local authorities and communities, the provision of community recreation opportunities is likely to be on a demand basis. This results in contentions for recreation opportunities which are not directly demanded but which may have wide participation rates by members of the community if available. An obvious example of this in the Tuapeka / Lawrence area is that of a community gym, which was discussed frequently in interviews with community members, yet was not appearing in any community or local authority plans for the future. This highlights a breakdown in the community and local government interaction and strengthens the argument for the benefits of a model such as the community recreation opportunity planning process. The elements of the ROS, in the forms of activity, setting and experience, can assist a

community and the local authority to target the future for the community recreation opportunity planning in an area.

A secondary issue which the ROS can assist a community with is ensuring that the community recreation opportunities available are inclusive and accessible to all within the community. Based on this research social exclusion appears to be an issue not addressed at present; however, use of CROPP by recreation practitioners within the area will enable greater awareness of this and enable steps to be taken to minimise social exclusion for community recreation activities.

To ensure there are successful community recreation opportunities in a community, the importance of the roles of the local authority and the community need to be recognised. Each represents different sides of the community recreation opportunity planning process, as often without one the other may experience difficulty. The role that the local authority and the community each plays can be thought about as a supply / demand relationship. Without the council supplying the infrastructure, facilities and / or funding, many of the recreation opportunities in the area would not occur. However, the council should not be left solely responsible for the provision of community recreation opportunities, as the community needs to take charge of the demand side of the equation by ensuring that the community recreation opportunities are what they want, and also what they can afford. When the supply and demand of needs are being met then the provision and planning process for the community recreation opportunities within Tuapeka / Lawrence, and other communities throughout New Zealand, will truly meet the needs of the community.

V. Conclusion

This chapter has introduced and discussed the development of the model known as the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process. This tool has been developed for use by communities and local governments to ensure that the community recreation opportunities on offer are fulfilling the requirements of the community. By understanding community recreation as a process, recreation planners can respond to a community's recreation needs in a structured way by recognising input,

implementation and outcome phases. The key themes found in these data are likely to be different amongst different communities. In relation to the Tuapeka / Lawrence community this tool represents their style of community recreation planning and provision well. However, it is to be remembered that this is a representation of a single case-study and not all identified elements of the process will be applicable to other communities. The success of CROPP is dependant upon the local government not withdrawing funding and pushing the community into becoming self-reliant, rather there is a need to ensure that the local government and community work together to ensure the best community recreation opportunities for all members of the community.

Chapter Seven: Implications & Conclusions

I. Introduction

While discussion up to this point has focused on the functions of the community recreation opportunity planning process and the elements within, it is important to comment on the implications this process may have. Therefore, the purpose of this chapter is to identify possible implications, at a theoretical and practical level for the implementation of CROPP by local governments and communities. Areas for future research have been identified from this research and will also be discussed.

II. Implications

Pragmatic implications

The practical implications of the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process are important to recognise and understand to ensure the process is well understood by practitioners. An obvious limiting factor of the CROPP is that of the link between the community and the local government. The link between the two is vital to the provision and utilisation of successful community recreation activities, as often the very facilities in which the community recreation opportunities occur are council provided or funded in some form. Consequently, the importance of a clear direction between both parties is paramount. As described in chapter six, the role highlighted in CROPP between the local government and the community needs to be based on a supply / demand relationship.

A second pragmatic implication the CROPP has presented is that of usability of the process for recreation practitioners within local government. Until this process is actually tested by a recreation practitioner for a period of time an understanding of the user-friendliness of it will be difficult to gauge. An obvious issue will be getting the recreation practitioner to 'buy in' to the concept and trial it in a situation where they have the necessary support and resources to fairly test the applicability of it in a work environment.

Theoretical implications

Theoretically this research has highlighted a new possible framework for the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum to be placed. The community development theory at present is applied in a range of different settings; therefore, using the recreation opportunity spectrum as a tool for understanding recreational experiences within community development may provide an opportunity for greater uptake of the community development process. In this sense then community development theory does present a good theory in which elements of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum can be placed.

Future Research recommendations

There are three key aspects which have emerged from the research as possible areas for future research. The first is research into the incorporation of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum into community development theory. By recognising if this is an appropriate theory for the elements of the recreation opportunity spectrum to be associated with then further research could develop other areas of applicability.

The second area for future research is that of a replicated case study to this one, conducted in a different community, with the purpose of identifying if there are similar results or not. It is expected that different communities will have differences which may affect the Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process. Expected illustrations of these differences may be in the form of urban versus rural communities, and also amongst communities with differing age, familial and cultural structures.

The third and final recommendation for future research is that of a longitudinal study into the effects central government policy decisions have had, and continue to have, on community recreation at the community level. Ideally this would trace the impacts of historical policy changes right through to present day. The purpose of such a study would be to identify if these changes have resulted in significant effects at the grass-roots level of recreation. Possible measures for this research include measuring levels of funding, rates of participation, inclusiveness, range of activities, depth of

opportunities amongst different communities and quality of life perceptions of community members.

III. Conclusion

As the research has been guided by the initial research questions, it is appropriate now to return to them to briefly state the finding for each. The key variables which influence community recreation opportunities in the Tuapeka / Lawrence are funding, decision-making, volunteering and community participation, land ownership, social capital and propinquity. It is due to these key aspects that the community and the local government are guided to provide the community recreation opportunities available. Community development is an appropriate tool for understanding how the community operates in the area, and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum elements of activity, setting and experience do provide a sound background from which community recreation can be analysed and monitored.

Community recreation opportunities are an element of the society in which we live, but are often disregarded as not being a necessity of life. Community recreation opportunities are not autonomous events within a community. They are reliant on social, economic, political, environmental and cultural factors. Most importantly of all, as this research has shown, community recreation opportunities are significantly affected by community participation, volunteering, social capital, propinquity, land ownership, decision-making and funding issues. It is the people of a small community which are the glue which hold the community recreation opportunities together. In light of this, it is important to recognise, understand and value the contribution made by both the community and the local government to the provision of the community recreation opportunities. Neither can function without the other, therefore the use of sound community development principles and approaches are the best mechanism in which to develop strong relationships between the two. Rather than leave community recreation opportunities up to chance, recognising that it is an important aspect of the worlds in which we live will ensure collaborative consultation between the community and local government, ensuring the best community recreation provision for all.

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Appendix One: Tuapeka / Lawrence Community Recreation Organisations

Aerobics
Angling Club

Art Group
Athletics Club
APW Fellowships

Beaumont Hall Committee
Beaumont Residents Group
Beaumont Swimming Pool
Board of Trustees – Waitahuna
Bowling Club (Men's & Ladies)
Brownies

Cancer Society Craft Group
Cricket Club

Darts Club
Dunkeld Cemetery

Euchre Club

Federated Farmers
Fire Brigade

Gardening Club (Lawrence)
Gardening Club (Waitahuna)
Girl Guides
Goldrush Radio Station
Golf (Men's & Ladies)
Gymkhana Club

Hockey
Hockey – Golden Oldies

Indoor Bowls (Lawrence)
Indoor Bowls (Tuapeka West)
Indoor Bowls (Waitahuna)

Lawrence Area School – Board of Trustees
Lawrence Area School – Parent Teacher Ass.
Lawrence Gun club
Lawrence Information Centre
Lawrence Lions Club
Lawrence Swimming Pool (CDC operated)
Lawrence Theatrical Society

Meals on Wheels
Methodist Women's Fellowship

Museum Committee

Netball Club

Patchwork Club

Political Parties - (contact for National only)

Play-centre

Plunket

Quarter Mile Club

Racing Club (Beaumont)

Red Cross (Lawrence)

Red Cross (Waitahuna)

Rodeo Club

Returned Service men Association (RSA)

Rugby Club

Senior Citizens

Simpson Park

Spinning

Squash

St Johns Ambulance Association

St Patrick's Women's Fellowship

St Patrick's Parish Council

Tuapeka Collie Club

Tuapeka Community Health Organisation

Tuapeka Goldfields Museum

Tuapeka Indoor Bowls

Tuapeka West School Bus Committee

Tuapeka Times

Tuapeka Trotting Club

Tuapeka Vintage Car Club

Tuapeka West Hall Committee

Waitahuna Cemetery

Waitahuna Domain

Waitahuna Collie Club

Waitahuna Commonage

Waitahuna Craft Group

Waitahuna Fire Brigade

Waitahuna Gymkhana

Waitahuna Hall Committee

Waitahuna Library

Waitahuna Play-Group

Waitahuna Presbyterian Buildings

Waitahuna Parent Teacher Association

Womens Institute

January

Appendix Two: Tuapeka / Lawrence Community Recreation Events

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 * Scarecrow competition (Lawrence Arts Festival)	13 * Children's Handcraft competition (Lawrence Arts Festival)	14 *Lawrence Arts Festival *Lawrence Angling Club * Otago Western Riding Club Show
15 *Lawrence Arts Festival *Lawrence Angling Club * Otago Western Riding Club Show	16	17	18	19 * Lawrence Bowling Club Meeting * Thursday Club – Piggy Bank display	20	21
22 * Lawrence Gymkhana, Horse Trek & Dog Sale	23	24	25	26 * Lawrence Rugby Football Club – preseason meeting * Thursday club – Crafts & Cards	27 * Lawrence Toy Library - stock take	28
29 * Lawrence Markets * Annual Beaumont vs Lawrence Cricket match * Combined churches picnic services	30	31 * Lawrence ¼ mile meeting * Waitahuna collie club AGM * Lawrence Rodeo Club meeting				

2006

February

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 * Tuapeka West community trust meeting	2 * Thursday club - housie	3	4 * Lawrence Angling Club (interclub with Teviot) * Opening day for golf club
5	6	7 * Lawrence Ladies Golf Club	8 * Waitahuna playgroup begins (weekly event) * Lawrence Plunket meeting	9 * Thursday club – wares & goods	10 * Lawrence Toy Library begins (weekly)	11 * Lawrence Rodeo
12 * Lawrence Markets	13 * AGM Athenaeum & Mining Institute * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	14 * Ceramic Classes (weekly) * Play-centre reopens (weekly) * Lawrence 1/4 mile meeting	15 * Lawrence Senior Citizens trip to Beaumont * Guides, Pippins & Brownies registration day	16 * Lawrence Area School PTA meeting * Thursday club – ‘sing a long’ * Lawrence Bowling Club meeting	17 * Lawrence Rugby Club fundraiser – lamb competition	18 * Waitahuna Garden Club trip * Mt Benger A&P show
19 * Off-road racing – Waitahuna * Lawrence Angling Club	20	21 * Tuapeka Vintage Club meeting * West Otago monitor farm annual field day	22 * Waitahuna Craft Club * Waitahuna Library open	23 * Thursday club – guest speaker from the ‘Flying Doctors’	24 * Town Meeting at Simpson Park on local projects * Gabriels Goldies Hockey Girls meeting	25 * Lawrence Angling Club * Boxing Club reunion (?)
26 * Lawrence Angling Club * Lawrence Markets	27 * Order of St John committee meeting	28				

2006

March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	* Fundraiser for Beaumont Community Pool – at some stage in March – splitting firewood		1	2 * Thursday club – Housie	3 * Lawrence Red Cross cake stall	4 * Lawrence Angling club hut open day * Mt. Stuart family picnic day
5	6	7 * Lawrence community toy library - AGM	8	9 * Thursday club – afternoon tea at the Ark * Forage master workshop	10	11
12 * Lawrence Markets * Lawrence Angling Club	13 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	14 * Lawrence Rodeo Club meeting	15 * Play-centre meeting * Waitahuna Hall Committee meeting	16 * Lawrence Area School PTA meeting * Thursday club - ;sing a long' *Tuapeka Goldfields Museum meeting	17 * Lions club 'spud in a bag' competition weigh in (FR)	18 * Lawrence Lions Club Trail-Bike ride
19 * Lawrence Golf Club fundraiser – 'wood splitting'	20 * Waitahuna Garden Club	21 * Lawrence Indoor Bowls sub-association meeting * Tuapeka Vintage Club meeting * Lawrence ¼ mile meeting	22 * Lawrence Senior Citizens AGM + Cards & Games	23 * Thursday club – visit from Waitahuna * Tuapeka Squash Club AGM * Friends of the cemetery meeting * Lawrence Junior Rugby Club registration day	24 * Bill English (National MP) visit to Lawrence – meet 'n' greet for community * Waitahuna Collie Club Dog Trials	25 * Waitahuna Collie Club Dog Trials
26 * Lawrence Markets	27 * Order of St John committee meeting	28 * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting * Waitahuna Indoor bowls opening night	29	30 * Thursday Club – guest speaker of South African trip * Lawrence Indoor bowls opening night * Lawrence Red Cross – 'red rose day' (FR)	31 * Tuapeka West Collie Dog Club Trials	

2006

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 * Tuapeka West Collie Dog Club Trials * West Otago seven aside rugby tournament
2 * Lawrence Angling Club – interclub * Lawrence Markets	3	4 * Lawrence ¼ mile meeting	5 * Alpha meeting * Play-centre meeting * Lawrence Golf Club mid-week tournament	6 * Thursday club - Housie	7 * Lawrence Area School Fair * Gabriel's Goldie's Hockey Girls meeting	8 * Lawrence ¼ mile event
9 * Lawrence Netball Club (FR) * Lawrence Golf Club - Stable ford	10 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting * Waitahuna Garden Club Tuapeka Squash club working bee	11 * Ladies Golf Club meeting * Lawrence Rodeo club meeting	12 * Lawrence Art Group and Summer Festival meeting * Lawrence Tuapeka community board meeting * Lawrence Bowling Club meeting	13 * Thursday club – Trip to Queenstown * Goldfields Edu-care cake stall (FR)	14	15
16 * Lawrence Markets * Beaumont fishing competition	17	18	19	20 * Thursday club – Card & Craft making * Tuapeka Goldfields Museum meeting * Waitahuna Indoor Bowls Club meeting	21	22 * Lawrence Golf Club – Avenue Trophy * Lawrence Angling Club
23 * Lawrence Golf Club – firewood working bee (FR)	24 * Waitahuna Red Cross meeting * Start of Lawrence Girl Guides meeting	25	26 * Play-centre cleanup * Council 'long term council and community plan' expo	27 * Lawrence Golf Club women's meeting	28	29 * Beaumont Valley rally * Lawrence Golf Club Champs * Lawrence Angling Club
30 * Lawrence Angling Club						2006

May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 * Night fitness classes begin at Simpson Park (weekly)	2	3	4 *Thursday club - Housie	5 * Golden Oldies Hockey Girls meeting	6 * Lawrence Art Group – Collage and mixed media course * Duck-shooting weekend
7 * Lawrence Art Group – Collage and mixed media course * Lawrence Netball Club Quiz night (FR)	8 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	9 * Waitahuna Garden Club	10 * Play-centre meeting	11 * Thursday Club – residents video of trip to Queenstown * Lawrence Art Festival meeting * Lawrence Rugby Club meeting	12	13
14	15	16 * Tuapeka Vintage Club Meeting * Goldfields Edu-care Inc. meeting	17	18 * Thursday club – ‘sing a long’ * Tuapeka Goldfields Museum meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24 * Lawrence Bowling Club AGM	25 * Thursday Club – Edu Care visit * Lawrence Area School PTA meeting * Goldfields Edu-Care meeting	26	27 * Century Farms Dinner
28 * Play-centre working bee	29 * Red Cross Meeting * Order of St John committee meeting	30 * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting	31 * Plunket mothers group meeting			
					2006	79

June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 * Thursday Club – visit from Nurse Emma	9 * Tuapeka West / Waitahuna Collie Club prize-giving	10 * Lawrence Girl Guides cake stall
11	12 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	13 * Lawrence Junior rugby Club meeting	14 * Plunket meeting	15 * Thursday club – soft toy collection * Waitahuna Craft Club * Lawrence Indoor Bowls meeting * Lawrence Summer Arts Festival meeting	16	17
18	19 * Waitahuna Red Cross meeting * Monday night basketball competition (weekly)	20 * Lawrence Rodeo Club meeting	21 * Lawrence Art Group	22 * Senior Citizens mid winter dinner meeting * Thursday club - ‘sing a long’ * Lawrence Heritage and Opportunities working party meeting	23	24 * Lawrence Golf Club - Stableford
25	26	27 * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting	28	29 * Thursday club	30 * Lawrence Junior Rugby club – cake stall	

2006

July

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1
2	3	4	5 * Waitahuna Craft Club * Lawrence Tuapeka community board meeting * Tuapeka West community trust meeting * Lawrence Art Group	6	7	8
9	10 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	11 * Waitahuna Garden club	12 * Simpson Park committee AGM * Lawrence Bowling Club * Play-centre clean up	13 * Lawrence Junior Rugby club meeting	14 * CDC Libraries 'music & fun' afternoon * Otago District Health Board meeting	15
16	17 * Lawrence promotional website meting	18	19 * Senior Citizens meeting * Lawrence Netball club meeting * Lawrence Art Group meeting	20 * Goldfields Museum AGM	21	22 * Lawrence Angling club prizegiving
23	24 * Order of St John committee meeting * Scholastic book fair	25 * Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company AGM * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting	26	27 * Lawrence Angling Club AGM * Lawrence Area School PTA meeting	28 * Waitahuna Golf Club meeting (to dissolve club) * Mainly music: pre-schoolers & parents music morning (weekly)	29
30	31 * Adult Ukulele music classes					

2006

August

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2 * Lawrence Art Group	3 * Thursday club - Housie	4	5 * Lawrence Rugby Club prize-giving / cabaret
6	7 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	8 * Waitahuna craft club	9 * Play centre meeting * Lawrence bowling club meeting * Waitahuna Library open	10 * Youth Aid officer speaking * Thursday club – 95 th birthday party	11 * Lawrence Junior rugby prize-giving	12 * Lawrence bowling club – car boot sale (FR)
13 * Lawrence Angling Club	14	15 * Tuapeka Vintage Club meeting	16 * Lawrence Tuapeka community board meeting Lawrence Senior Citizens meeting	17 * Lawrence Incorporated AGM (part of the Heritage group) * Tuapeka Gold Museum meeting *Thursday club – arts & crafts	18 * Lawrence Area School ‘Juniors’: Mid winter cooking demonstration (FR)	19
20 * 10 th anniversary of Lawrence Worship Centre	21 * Scout promotion meeting	22 * Lawrence Rodeo AGM * Goldfields Edu-Care meeting	23	24 * Lawrence Rugby Club meeting * Thursday club – Trinkets & Treasure show	25 * Golden Oldies hockey trip * Lawrence Cancer Society – cake stall (FR)	26 * Lawrence Golf Club knockout tournament * Mid-Winter Ball
27 * Lawrence Golf Club knockout tournament	28 * Order of St John committee meeting	29 * Public meeting on Heritage Precincts * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting	30 * Waitahuna War Memorial Committee meeting (Waitahuna Hall) * Lawrence Art Group	31 * Thursday club - crafts		

2006

September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 * Play – centre 'fins n chips' night	2 * Lawrence Angling Club
3	4 * Waitahuna Red Cross meeting	5 * WOMF (?) Community Group	6	7 * Lawrence Area School PTA meeting * Thursday club - housie	8	9 * Lawrence Netball Prize-giving
10 * Lawrence Heritage Trust – Quiz Night (FR)	11 * Lawrence Golf Club	12 * Lawrence Zone Indoor Bowls Champs	13 * Lawrence Art Group * Waitahuna Craft Group * Waitahuna Hall Library	14 * Thursday club – cards & boxes * Lawrence Area School Dance Night	15 * Community Dance & Chat evening	16
17 * Goldfields Edu-Care – Family portraits (FR)	18 * Waitahuna Garden Club * Children's Native Bush Planting	19 * Tuapeka Vintage Club meeting * Lawrence ¼ mile meeting	20 * Lawrence Senior Citizens meeting	21 * Lawrence Bowling Club meeting * Thursday club – crafts * Tuapeka Goldfields Museum meeting	22 * Tuapeka Squash club finals & prize-giving * Clutha District 'Branding & E-Seminar'	23 * Lawrence Daffodil fields open
24 * Lawrence Daffodil fields open	25 * Order of St John committee meeting	26 * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting * Goldfields Edu-Care meeting	27 * Lawrence Tuapeka Community Board meeting * Lawrence Art Group	28 * Ewan Gilmour tour – Lawrence Show * Play-centre AGM * Thursday club - crafts	29	30
					2006	
						83

October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 * Lawrence Golf Club working bee * Lawrence Angling Club * The Southern Crucible tour - public	2 * Waitahuna Garden Club	3	4 * Play-centre clean up	5 * Thursday club – afternoon tea	6	7
8 * Last train to Clarkesville	9 * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	10 * Friends of Cemetery meeting	11 * Lawrence Plunket Group * Tuapeka West Community Trust AGM	12 * Lawrence Bowling Club meeting * Lawrence Summer Arts Festival meeting * Thursday club – ‘sing a long’	13	14 * Opera & Entertainment evening (McAtameny) * Tuapeka Vintage Club bus trip
15 * Lawrence Angling Club	16	17	18 * Senior Citizens Club meeting	19 * Goldfields Museum meeting * Lawrence Rugby Club meeting * Thursday club – Housie Lawrence Senior Cricket team meeting	20 * Goldfields Edu-Care cake stall	21
22	23 * National Gold-Panning championships	24 * Community Christmas Carol planning meeting	25 * Lawrence Art Group meeting * Ladies Social Bowls day	26	27 * Tuapeka Harness racing Night – at Forbury Park in Dunedin	28 * Lawrence Area School Adult Education – Upholstery Course
29	30 * Order of St John committee meeting	31 * Lawrence Gymkhana Club meeting Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting				

2006

November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2	3 * Lawrence Area School Pet day * Beaumont Hall meeting	4 * Lawrence Country Fair * Monster Book Sale – CDC * Lawrence Theatrical Society
5 * Lawrence Angling Club * Lawrence Markets	6 * Lawrence Heritage Trust meeting * Lawrence Golf Club meeting	7 * Lawrence Rodeo Club meeting * Lawrence Rugby club meeting	8 * Lawrence Art Group meeting * Lawrence Tuapeka community board meeting	9 * Thursday club - Housie	10 * Lawrence Social Bowls day * Lawrence Rugby club working bee	11 * Waitahuna Garden Club Christmas lunch * Tuapeka Vintage Club car rally * Lawrence / Waitahuna Presbyterian Garden Tour
12 * Lawrence Angling Club	13	14	15 * Plunket AGM – ‘Active Movement theme’	16 * Thursday club – guest author * Lawrence Area School PTA meeting * Goldfields Museum meeting * Lawrence Summer Arts festival meeting	17 * Golden Oldies Hockey Girls meeting * Social Bowls day	18
19 * Lawrence Markets * Lawrence Angling Club	20	21 * Goldfields Edu-Care meeting * Tuapeka Vintage Club meeting * Lawrence ¼ mile meeting	22 * Tuapeka West pest Eradication group	23 * Thursday club – bread- making	24 * Lawrence Area School Junior presentation * Ladies Social Bowls	25
26 * Lawrence Golf Club Anniversary Tournament * Mt Smart Trust Market Day	27 * Order of St John committee meeting	28 * Tuapeka West Collie Club AGM * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting	29	30 * Thursday club – ‘sing a long’		

2006

December

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 * St Patrick's Garage Sale – Funds to Tuapeka Health Company * Twilight Golf competition	2 * Tuapeka West Community Trust Christmas BBQ
3 * Lawrence Angling Club * Lawrence Markets	4	5 * Goldfields Edu-Care AGM	6	7 * Waitahuna School end of year concert * Lawrence Area School gut-buster * Thursday club – Housie * Lawrence Rugby club AGM	8 * Play-centre final night – fish 'n' chip evening	9
10 * Coach & Horse Golf tournament * Lawrence Angling Club	11 * Lawrence Golf Club AGM	12 * Lawrence Rodeo Club	13 * Lawrence Area School end of year prize-giving * Thursday club – afternoon tea * Lawrence Senior Citizens	14 * Community Toy Library AGM * Lawrence Summer Arts festival meeting * Goldfields Museum meeting	15 * LAWAY Disco * Tuapeka Transport Client BBQ	16
17	18 * Lawrence Golf Club special meeting	19 * Community Christmas Carols * Tuapeka Vintage Club * Lawrence Area School Board of Trustees meeting	20 * The Havelock Commonage AGM at Waitahuna	21	22	23
24 * Family Carol Service	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 * Lawrence Markets						

Appendix Three: Sample of email sent to interviewees

----- Original Message -----

From: [Toni Helen Spittle](#)

To:

Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 1:07 PM

Subject: Lincoln University Research

Hi ,

My name is Toni Spittle and I worked for the CDC for 2 years looking after the swimming pool facilities of the area. I returned to Lincoln University in July this year, where I am completing my Masters of Applied Science in Recreation Management. I am aiming to be finished by July 2007. As part of this Masters, I am required to undertake a research project in the form of a dissertation in a field that is of interest to me.

The research topic that I have selected is to undertake a case study of Lawrence, and in particular attempt to identify factors that exist there with regard to community recreation and community development. Through my time working with the swimming pool I was immensely impressed by the attitude and motivation that exists within the community and feel that it deserves research as an example of what a community can achieve.

As I am doing a recreation management major for my Masters, I need to keep within the realms of recreation for my research, therefore I am primarily interested in 'community recreation' eg local sports clubs, facilities, voluntary groups and organisations, clubs and societies that members of the community are a part of.

While the ultimate goal would be to do full scale research of Lawrence, unfortunately I am bound by time constraints. Therefore I am only able to do research using 'key informant' interviews, or in other words I am hoping to speak to people involved in the decision-making or management / running of community recreation, and subsequent activities or organisations, in Lawrence. The aim being to understand how decisions are made regarding what community recreation activities and events are run, where funding is sourced etc.

I am hoping that you are able to assist me with my research and offer a perspective from your work as president of the Tuapeka Lawrence Community Company. I have been in contact with Larissa Brown of the Clutha District Council who thought you would be able to give insights from your experience in various other local clubs and organisations also.

I am anticipating coming down the week of the 22nd of January to do these interviews. However, I am flexible and would like to fit with the best time that suits you. Therefore if you are interested please let me know if you are available and dates that suit you best, as I fully understand that January is a busy month for everyone.

I appreciate any help you can give me with this project, however if you have any queries, questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Toni Spittle

Appendix Four: Sample if Interview Structure

Base Data:

- Length of time living in Lawrence
- Reason for moving there
- Involvement in community recreation organisations

Tell me role of community board:

(who what when where how why)

Current community recreation projects for the area

How is community recreation managed / administered?

Is there a sense of community obligation to volunteer time to community?

If so what is the driving force behind this?

For a newcomer, easy / difficult to become involved?

How is decision-making made within the community board regarding CR?

What do you see for the future of Lawrence?

Appendix Five: Community Recreation Opportunity Planning Process

