

To whom it may concern:

Support for funding application by The Loons Theatre Company to develop Lyttelton Arts Factory project in partnership with Lyttelton Primary School

Elected members of the Lyttelton Mt Herbert Community Board represent everyone living in communities around Lyttelton Harbour and in Port Levy.

The Lyttelton Mt Herbert Community Board would like you to know that it fully supports this application by The Loons Theatre Company Trust for funds to realise their Lyttelton Arts Factory project in partnership with the new Lyttelton Primary School.

Since the Loons Theatre Company was set up nine years ago with the aim of producing accessible, affordable theatre for the whole community, the Loons Theatre Company has certainly delivered on its objective. In addition to producing a whole series of excellent shows in Lyttelton, some of which toured New Zealand and beyond, the company operated a learning centre with approximately 60 or more children regularly attending after school drama, circus skills classes and holiday programmes at their old venue in the Lyttelton Working Men's Club. Adult drama classes were also popular. Since the earthquakes drama classes for local children have continued at Lyttelton Schools with many of our young people gaining new life skills and confidence.

The Loons Theatre Company has mounted many successful shows ranging from Pinter to "Breakneck Circus Cabaret", which have entertained, amused locals and attracted many people from wider Christchurch. Few will forget how after The Loons building was further damaged by 13 June 2011 earthquake, the adaptable company performed Macbeth outdoors in a temporary theatre on a nearby demolition site. The Loons Theatre provides work and experience for many talented performers, and a forum where performers can continue to up-skill. By providing a creative hub for performers. The Loons Theatre Company Trust helps to keep talent here in Christchurch.

The Board welcomes the prospect of a whole new generation of Lyttelton young people learning about theatre and performance as a result of the partnership between Lyttelton Primary School and the theatre company. We believe this is likely to contribute significantly to Lyttelton's growing reputation as a performance destination for both music and drama where talent of all kinds is grown and supported. The Lyttelton Arts Factory is a good fit with the character and identity of Lyttelton's community and will provide a much needed to boost our town's slow economic recovery from the effects of the earthquakes.

Please support this application for funds to enable all these good things to happen.

Yours sincerely



Paula Smith
Chairperson
Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board
28 August 2015