

**SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE**  
**ROBSON COLLECTION**  
**NAPIER PILOT CITY TRUST PROJECT**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Napier Pilot City Trust was formed in the early 1980s and in response to concerns at increasing levels of violence and crime within New Zealand society; a concern with obvious relevance today.

It was established with the aim of reducing offending, violence and crime, and of supporting bicultural initiatives to improve the quality of life for all citizens of Napier.

A key project for the Trust was the instigation of the Robson Collection housed in Napier City Library.

The Robson Collection is unique in containing over 1,000 publications on topics of restorative and transformative justice – likely the largest collection of its kind in New Zealand outside of any university library.

Some aims of the Robson Collection are to act as:

- an insurance policy for future generations
- a resource for social learning, education and research
- a record of local, national and international programmes and initiatives; and
- a record of bicultural initiatives.

The collection is intended to have an educational role and a strong bicultural focus.

The Trust is very keen to increase public awareness of the collection as well as use of the resource, and its application to the benefit of the people and communities most in need within Napier.

One aspect of that concern is to put the “theory” within the many texts and publications comprising the collection into practice, such that the relative benefits of a restorative or transformative justice model can be evaluated, demonstrated and documented based on “real world” experience within Napier.

As one means to that end, the Trust has secured funding to enable an appropriately qualified student to undertake research within the Napier community, applying the resource within the collection, and to prepare a written paper recording the outcomes of that research which would in turn supplement the collection itself.

## PROPOSAL

In partnership with the Napier City Library that houses the collection, the Trust proposes to award the sum of \$5,000.00 as a scholarship to a student who would reside in Napier over the 2011/ 2012 summer academic vacation for the research purpose outlined above. Preferred candidates will undertake their research with academic supervision from a host University. This would include supervision on research methodologies, practices and ethics approval.

The research topic would be at the student's election but related to the content and purpose of the Robson Collection, along with the Trust's goal of promoting its application and use to the benefit of people and communities within Napier, and as outlined above.

It is broadly envisaged that over a 10 week period (within the forthcoming academic summer vacation) the student would spend roughly one third of their time researching the chosen topic using the Robson collection (and undertaking any other research needed through accessing literature from other including university or tertiary institution libraries), one third of their time undertaking primary research within the Napier community, and one third writing up the results of that research.

Please note that this is only a guide, and a greater time allocation on the primary research element, and writing the research paper after the 10 week period is completed, are also acceptable options for any proposed research methodology.

The Trust would assist in identifying areas and people within the community of relevance to the proposed research topic and as might benefit from it.

The Trust would also assist in arranging accommodation at the lowest possible cost for the student.

## REQUIREMENTS

It is expected that the research will receive ethics approval from the supporting institution, before primary research commences.

The required output of the research would be a paper of between 12,000 to 15,000 words.

The student would be free to apply that paper to any subsequent academic studies including as a base for or component of a research paper, dissertation or thesis as might assist conclusion of a post-graduate diploma or degree.

The applicant should have essentially completed an undergraduate degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field such as criminology, sociology, community psychology, or law.

**Applications for the 2011 round have now closed. Please contact the Trust office (contact details are below) for details on the opening and closing dates for the 2012 round (these should be available by mid-2012).**

The application should be no longer than 3 typed written pages, but must include:

- the proposed topic.
- a statement of the student's proposed research methodology.
- details of any papers currently being undertaken by the student.
- a statement of the applicant's personal goals and objectives for undertaking the research, and how it would fit in with the student's intended further studies.

The application must also be accompanied by:

- a reference from a member of the academic staff at the tertiary institution, in support of (i) the applicant's ability to undertake research of the kind outlined above to a suitable standard; (ii) the provision of academic supervision to the project.
- a transcript of academic grades for all papers concluded (and which have been received) prior to the application date.

It would also be a requirement that the student agree to present the paper, once completed, at the Trust's annual Robson Collection lecture series which is generally held in November of each year (in this case then, in November 2012) or at a time otherwise agreed with the student.

#### **GRANTING OF APPLICATION**

The application would be granted by the Trust with notice to the student received by 5.00 pm on 4 November 2011. The student would then be invited to contact the Trust to make arrangements for accommodation within Napier, and to progress the primary research element.

Payment of the scholarship fund would be as follows:

- \$1,000.00 upon arrival in Napier
- Weekly payments of \$300.00 over a period of 10 weeks
- Final \$1,000.00 upon receipt of the paper (to a reasonable standard and to the Trust's satisfaction)

#### **ADDRESS FOR APPLICATIONS**

Please direct your application to:

Mr Will Jenkins  
Napier Pilot City Trust  
PO Box 2  
Napier 4140

Or by email to:

[napierpilotcity@callplus.net.nz](mailto:napierpilotcity@callplus.net.nz)