



Rotorua, New Zealand International Safe Communities #200 Designation

Rotorua has achieved International Safe Community status following an evaluation from members of Safe Communities Foundation NZ. In May, 2010, the Treasure Rotorua Steering Group which is coordinated by Rotorua District Council, hosted the review team for its assessment of whether Rotorua had met six key criteria required for designation as an International Safe Community. Rotorua District Council Safe Community designation leader Amy Royston says the assessment day provided an opportunity to showcase some of the community's wide range of safety projects.

"The review team observed the Aquatic Centre's Unison Lake Safety programme in action, falls prevention, a driveway safety demonstration at City Focus, and saw how Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design has been implemented in Rotorua."



Site Visit team at Union Lake Safety Programme

"The day was a huge success, and it's a great achievement for Rotorua. It's recognition of the many groups and individuals who play a part in improving safety for our community."



Site Visit team at Falls Prevention

"The accreditation does not imply that Rotorua is perfectly safe. However it does confirm that, as a community, we are absolutely committed to making Rotorua as safe as possible for our residents and for the hundreds of thousands of people who visit every year."

Safe Communities Foundation NZ director Dr Carolyn Coggan says the review team was highly impressed with the calibre of Rotorua's application document. She stated:

"It is one of the most comprehensive from New Zealand or around the world. There is a range of comprehensive crime prevention and safety programmes operating, and outcomes have been identified to measure their reach and impact, including 27% decrease in injury deaths between 2001-2005 and an overall decrease in crimes of 24% between July 2003 and 2008"

"It is evident that there is good collaboration between different groups in Rotorua working to improve safety and reduce the injury and crime burden."



Treasure Rotorua with ISC Signatories

Dr Coggan also said the review team thought it was inspiring that the Rotorua Mayor Kevin Winters is obviously so supportive of the project and is right behind the community.

Treasure Rotorua is made up of representatives from Rotorua District Council, Castlecorp, Rotorua Police, Toi Te Ora, Lakes DHB, ACC, Neighbourhood Support, Te Waiariki Pura Trust, MSD and local iwi.

A formal presentation event to celebrate Rotorua's International Safe Community designation took place on 25th June. Rotorua is ISC # 200 and the 14th Council to achieve ISC accreditation in New Zealand. Further information can be found by visiting the Safe Communities Foundation NZ web site <http://www.safecommunities.org.nz/sc/roto>



Amy Royston, Ann Esler, Dr Carolyn Coggan, and Mayor Kevin