

“Growing the potential of information and communication technology for Rotorua communities”

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ROTORUA ICT PANUI

April/May 2006

Monthly meeting

The ICT Trust meets on the last Thursday of each month from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the [Rotorua Schools ICT Centre](#), third floor of the Public Library building (1137 Haupapa Street).

The next meeting is Thursday 27th April 2006.

This month's newsletter focuses on community ICT happenings in Rotorua with Lakes Webhealth.

Lakes Webhealth Up and Running

Lakes Webhealth, the new service for online health and social service information in Rotorua, is “rapt” with the level of local support it is receiving. Lakes Webhealth is part of [Webhealth.co.nz](http://www.webhealth.co.nz), an award-winning initiative contracted through district health boards in various parts of New Zealand. It includes a comprehensive directory of local health and social services such as counsellors, family services and GPs. Webhealth also offers free website development for any organisation that lists in the directory. The main Webhealth website is under continual development including features such as confidential Online Chat Assistance.

According to Lakes Regional Webhealth Coordinator Chris Webber, the latest enhancement is a Mental Health and Addiction training calendar. “This is so providers can see what training is on within various parts of the sector. The idea started from discussions at Lakes DHB and could really bring people and services together a lot more if it catches on in our region and others. It’s all working and getting loaded up with events. Depending how well this works, we’ll add other calendars for other parts of the sector to stay connected,” said Mr Webber. The calendar is easy to use and includes optional e-mail reminders and a search function.

Lakes Webhealth has big plans for the coming year and hopes to gain support through the Rotorua District ICT Strategy. Plans include a target to place two Webhealth web kiosks at public locations, develop additional online tools to support local health and social service organisations, and promote Lakes Webhealth to raise people's awareness.

More information:

www.webhealth.co.nz

Council and DHB Behind Joint Health Information

Local health and social service information is being updated both online and in hard copy thanks to a Council and DHB initiative. The 2006 edition of the Rotorua Good Health directory is currently being prepared for release in June and will be linked to an online searchable database with Lakes Webhealth. Lakes Webhealth, which is sponsored by Lakes District Health Board, and the Rotorua Citizens Advice Bureau, which is contracted by Rotorua District Council, are working together to ensure the community has the most up to date information in both hard copy and online format. Organisations interested in being listed for free in the Good Health Directory, Lakes Webhealth Directory, or both can contact the Rotorua Citizens' Advice Bureau on 348 3547, email cab.rotorua@xtra.co.nz, visit Webhealth at www.webhealth.co.nz, phone 0800 WEBHEALTH, or email lakes@webhealth.co.nz.

Rotorua District Council's community policy and resources manager Ann Esler, says the Rotorua Citizens Advice Bureau, Webhealth and Council have collectively committed to improving the quality and breadth of health and social service providers' information to our local community. Chris Webber of Lakes Webhealth says the three organisations recognise the value of health provider information being readily available in hard copy format as well as search-able and update-able on-line. "We aim to have the information easily accessible to our community."

More information:

<http://www.rdc.govt.nz/News+and+Events/Latest+News/Good+Health+Webhealth.htm>