

INVERCARGILL LICENSING TRUST INVESTING IN FUTURE CITY

The Invercargill Licensing Trust's tertiary education scholarships are providing financial assistance for 170 Invercargill students furthering their education at tertiary institutions.

Applications are now open for students, both school leavers and adult students, to apply for next year's round of scholarships which will give each student \$2000 a year for three years.

One Invercargill student who has benefited from the generous assistance of the ILT for the past two years is Annalise Browning. Miss Browning is in her second year of studying towards a Bachelor of Interior Architecture at Victoria University in Wellington. The former Southland Girls' High School pupil said it was a great relief to know she had financial backing from the ILT. "Receiving the scholarship meant a great deal to me. It decreased my stress regarding financing my studies. The scholarship also gave me a sense of accomplishment and pride. I felt that the ILT recognised my hard work and believed I could succeed at university. The interview with the panel gave me a lot of confidence and helped me to clarify where I wanted to go and what I want to do. The scholarship also gave me a drive to succeed in Wellington."

James Hargest College Deputy Principal Jenny Elder said students benefited not only from the scholarships but also the application process. For some this is the first time they will prepare an application form and go through an interview process so it gives them a great experience – one which they will no doubt use again in the future. It made students accountable for their results and gave them an advantage over other students from different regions", she said.

In 2010, a total of \$360,000 will be paid to both school leavers and "second chance" students who were attending tertiary institutions both in New Zealand and overseas.

ILT chairman Alan Dennis said the scholarships were aimed at encouraging students to further their education, learn new skills and then hopefully return to the city and use the knowledge they have gained to make Invercargill a better place to work, play and enjoy.

"It's all about people reaching their educational potential and if the Invercargill Licensing Trust can assist in some way towards that, we believe we will reap the rewards in the future."

Applications are available from secondary school career advisors, the ILT Head Office in Dee St, Invercargill, or by visiting the grants and donations page on the ILT website www.ilt.co.nz.