**Your organisations name and logo here**

**FINANCIAL**

**POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

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**General Accounting**

This policy sets out general accounting information about your organisation.

* 1. 1.1 Accounting

The financial accounting period for your organisation begins on the xxxx each calendar year and concludes on xxxx the following year.

The financial accounts for your organisation are on an accrual basis. Xero is the cloud based accounting package used for financial record-keeping. Xero accounts can only be accessed by the authorised users as delegated by the Manager.

The Manager/Financial Administrator will access accounting & audit advice as required.

* 1. 1.2 Audit and Review

The auditor for your organisation is ratified by the Trustees at the meeting following the end of the financial year. The organisation will alternate reviewing/auditing its year end reports, years with an odd number are review and years with even number are audit, except in instances where there has been a significant change in your organisation’s activity in which case an audit would be required. *Delete this clause if not audit required*

* 1. 1.3 GST

your organisation registered for GST on \*\*date\*\*, GST number \*\*\*\* GST returns are completed every two months, for periods ended month, month, month, month, month and month.

* 1. 1.4 Tax Status

your organisation is a registered charitable trust (CC\*\*\*\*\*\*) and holds tax exemption status.

* 1. 1.5 Insurance

your organisation holds Public Liability, Association Liability and Statutory Liability insurance cover through \*name insurance company\*\*.

* 1. 1.6 Annual Accounts

An audited or reviewed set of annual accounts including a Performance Report in line with Tier 3 Charity Services Reporting standards is presented at the AGM of your organisation in xxxxxx (6 months after your balance date) of each year.

The Manager and the Financial Administrator of your organisation will prepare the annual accounts and Performance Report.

The accounts are then audited / reviewed by the appointed auditor prior to them being copied, circulated and approved at the AGM.

**2. Funds Management**

Maintaining financial viability is one of the keys to your organisation’s continuing existence. To help ensure this the following financial policies and procedures have been developed.

2.1 Bank Accounts

your organisation holds one main operating bank account at the \*\* Bank and does not have an overdraft facility.

2.2 Reserves

The Trust aims to have a minimum of 3 months operating budget in reserve.

2.3 Term Deposits

your organisation holds reserve funds plus any surplus operating funds in a higher interest, low risk term deposit with \*\*\* Bank as existing accounts are held with both of these banks. These funds are transferred as required into the main operating account.

2.4 Banking

The Financial Administrator is responsible for the receipting and banking of all electronic funds received by your organisation.

Banking is done on a regular basis in an efficient and timely manner. Any funds held on the premises waiting to be banked are kept locked in a secure cabinet by name the role of team member.

2.5 Transfer of Funds

your organisation may transfer funds from the operating account to the Debit card account for payment of day to day expenses. The balance is topped-up as required up to a maximum of $xxxxx.

2.6 Payment of Invoices

Other transfer of funds may be done as required, online transfers requiring two signatories.

**3. Capital Expenditure**

This policy sets out some guidelines regarding the purchase, care and disposal of capital items.

3.1 Selection of Suppliers

Priority should be given to purchasing from local businesses where possible with consideration also being given to a Suppliers contribution to environmental and/or social outcomes that align with your organisation.

3.2 Purchase of Capital Items

The Manager of your organisation has the responsibility for purchasing any capital items. These items are set out in a budget each year which is approved by the Trustees. The purchase of all capital items should come within budget limits.

When purchasing significant items three quotes are sought to obtain a competitive price and benefits. The Manager reports on capital expenditure at Trust meetings.

Extraordinary items of capital expenditure over $xxxxx must be approved by the Trustees prior to any expense being incurred. The Manager can approve budgeted capital items up to the value of $xxxx. Board approval is required if the capital expenditure is over $xxxxx.

3.3 Asset Register

An asset register is held by your organisation and maintained by the Financial Administrator. Assets of $1,000 (excluding GST) or more are recorded. Any capital purchases less than $1,000 (excluding GST) are recorded as operating expenses.

3.4 Depreciation

Assets are depreciated on an accumulated value basis. The cost of the fixed asset is written off over the expected economic life. The rates are set out in the annual accounts.

3.5 Disposal of Assets

Capital items for disposal must first be approved by the Trustees unless it is of nil value according to the asset register. The Manager is responsible for the disposal of capital items. After Trustee approval the items may be offered to community groups in an ‘as is where is’ state at little or no cost, or to staff at reasonable, book or current market value rates.

**4. Internal Controls**

Internal controls have been put in place at your organisation to protect the organisation, its Trustees, funders and Staff.

4.1 Accounts Receivable

your organisation invoices an organisation or individual for payment of workshop/training fees and grant payments as required. Each invoice is reconciled with the payment when received. Receipts are issued for any cash received.

When a payment becomes overdue a statement is sent as a reminder of payment and then followed up by emails and phone calls. Once every effort has been made to recover funds the Manager has the authority to write off small unpaid debts under $xxx. Any single amount over $xxx is considered a significant amount of debt owing and will be referred to Trustees for a decision.

The Manager may choose not to enter into any financial transaction with any debtors who have not paid previous debts to your organisation.

Refunds may occasionally be issued if an organisation has given notification of non-attendance prior to an event. The Manager has final discretion in this matter.

4.2 Accounts Payable

Accounts payable are paid monthly on the 20th of the month following the date of the invoice.

your organisation has automatic payments set up for regular set payments such for rent, mobile phone and payroll for wages and salaries.

All other creditors are paid by direct credit via on-line banking. Accounts are approved for payment by the Manager and online payment is set up by the Financial Administrator for your organisation.

Two signatories are required for each online payment; the Manager plus a Trustee. If the payment relates to the Manager or an identified conflict of interest the Manager may not approve either the account or the online payment. In this instance all approvals must be completed by two Trustees.

A Trustee may not approve payment of any kind to themselves.

Automatic payment authorities are also signed by two signatories.

4.3 Bank Reconciliations

Bank accounts are reconciled through \*\*Xero\*\* for your organisation on a daily / weekly basis by the Financial Administrator.

4.4 Travel Reimbursement

your organisation reimburses mileage if a private vehicle has been required to be used for work purposes. This should be by negotiation and agreed to prior to the vehicle being used. The reimbursement rate paid is the current IRD rate per kilometre. The staff member / volunteer is required to fill out an Expenses Reimbursement form noting distance and reason for trip. This is approved by the Manager before payment is made. If the reimbursement relates to the Manager, the Expense Reimbursement form is approved by the Chairperson or Treasurer.

4.5 Out of Town Travel

If an employee is required to travel out of town for work related activities your organisation’s administrator will book any flights and/or accommodation. It is expected that the most cost effective options will be selected. Where an overnight stay is required a daily allowance of $50 will be provided to cover meals while away from home. Where breakfast is included as part of the accommodation booking the allowance will reduce to $35 per day. your organisation will cover room only costs relating to accommodation.

Any costs incurred due to flight or accommodation changes that relate to changes by the employee will not be met by your organisation.

4.6 Supplier Accounts

your organisation has an account with one Supplier and will approve additional suppliers where this is to the advantage of your organisation ie reduced costs, additional benefits. Where possible local suppliers will be selected and those who contribute to social and/or environment outcomes.

These accounts are available for staff to purchase items required to carry out the tasks of their employment.

Generally staff notify the Administrator of their needs and their wish to purchase goods. The Administrator will order and purchase goods in association with the General Manager for your organisation purchases. Receipts are passed onto the Financial Administrator or The Manager for The expenses for processing and reconciliation.

No guarantees are given by the Manager or Trustees for opening new accounts for supplies.

4.7 Petty Cash

your organisation has up to $100 in cash which is kept secure by the Administrator in a locked security box which is stored in a locked cupboard or safe and is available to Staff and Trustees for small work related purchases under $20 per transaction. The keys are held by the Administrator and the Manager and are not to be designated to any other staff members.

The Administrator is responsible for issuing, recording and receipting all items purchased with petty cash. Staff or Trustees who have been allocated petty cash are responsible for returning receipts and any unspent cash within 2 working days of the advance. Petty cash advances must not exceed $20.

The Financial Administrator balances petty cash to maintain a float of up to $100. The Manager will review and approve any Petty Cash Reconciliation and reimbursement.

4.8 Reimbursements

On occasions Staff,volunteers and Trustees may purchase small goods for work purposes using their own money. This will not exceed $50.00 per transaction. These items will be reimbursed by your organisation when the Staff member, Volunteer or Trustee completes a reimbursement form attaching receipts or verification of their purchase. All reimbursements are approved by the Manager (*see also Travel Reimbursement policy*). If the reimbursement relates to the Manager, the Expense Reimbursement form is reviewed and approved by the Chairperson or Treasurer.

4.9 Koha

your organisation pays Koha from time to time. Koha is defined as an unconditional, spontaneous gift (cash, goods or kind) given or received for unsolicited services, as within tikanga Māori. Koha will:

* be in the form of cash or goods;
* be paid to external person(s) or non-profit community groups who provide support, or undertake a one-off activity and expect non-payment or support in return for such activity;
* not be given in lieu of salary or as a payment for service(s) provided;
* not be given by your organisation to its employees.

Petty cash or debit card may be used to purchase items intended as Koha ie food taken to hui. For a cash Koha a Koha Request form must be completed and approved by the Manager for an amount of no more than $xxx, amounts over $xxx must be referred to the Chairperson or Treasurer for approval.

4.10 Debit Cards

The Manager has a Debit Card for work related expenses. In relation to your organisation’s debit card the cards must be in the control of the named authority and used with permission of the same. The debit card it is locked away, the team have permission to use it from time to time to buy consumables following the Managers approval.

The Debit Card is not to be used for personal expenses. In the event of accidental use of the card for personal expenses, the amount incurred must be repaid immediately to the bank account and the person’s Manager advised. If payment is not made immediately it will be deducted from the employees next payment of wages/salary, within the parameters of the Wages Protection Act 1983. Repeated incidents of accidental use for personal expenses may result in cancellation of the relevant staff members debit card.

The Debit Card is attached to a bank account. The Petty Cash account for your organisation is reinstated up to a maximum of $xxx as required. The cardholder will provide receipts for all expenses incurred for which they will provide receipts. These receipts are checked and approved by the General Manager. If the expenses relate to the Manager, the expenses are approved by the Chairperson.

4.11 Reporting

The Board of Trustees meet monthly. At these meetings the Manager presents a report on the work of the Staff and also a copy of the following financial accounts prepared by \*\* name of accountant or name of position\*\* :

* + - * Financial Administrator’s Report
      * Balance Sheet for the preceding month
      * Accounts Payable
      * Accounts Receivable
      * Cash Summary
      * Monthly Profit & Loss Report
      * YTD Profit & Loss showing budget vs actuals
      * Cashflow Forecast (quarterly January, April, July & October)

The Manager receives a copy of the monthly budget vs actuals report. The Trust is able to query any item in the financial accounts and view source documents.

4.12 Signatories & Online payment authorisations

your organisation uses two signatories/authorisations on each payment or online payment. One is the Manager who first approves all payments made. The second signatory/authorisation is the Chairperson or in their absence another Trustee.

Two signatories/authorisations are also required for automatic payments, direct debit authorities, online banking payments and any account transfers.

Any changes to signatories or access to your organisation’s bank accounts must be approved by the Trustees and recorded in board minutes.

Any letters of notification given to the bank must be signed by both the Manager and the Chairperson, or in the absence of the Chairperson the Treasurer.

The Financial Administrator is able to view transactions and load payments for your organisation.

4.13 Delegated Authority

The Manager has the authority to act on behalf of the Trust. Approval limits are set out in the annual budget and the Delegated Authorities policy. Staff members check with the Manager for your organisation before purchases are made. On occasions the Manager will consult with the Chairperson or bring matters out of the ordinary to the attention of the Trust at their meetings.

All major contracts or transactions binding the Trust need to be discussed with the Chairperson or Trustees before signing and be signed by the Chairperson and Trustee.

The Manager can authorise online payments of up to $xxx.

Any increase in limits to charge accounts or debit card is approved by the Trust and recorded in the minutes.

4.14 Budget

The Manager (following consultation with relevant staff) with support from the Financial Administrator is responsible for preparing the annual budget of your organisation. The Priorities are set by the Manager and the Trust.

Salaries and Contractor fees are set by the Manager within the budget, as is operational and capital expenditure. The your organisation annual budget is prepared to support the strategic plan and presented to the Trust for approval.

The budget can be revised if necessary during the financial year and presented to the Trust for approval. This may occur when significant changes are expected in income and/or expenditure. Regular financial monitoring occurs by budget comparisons to actual expenditure being made at Trust meetings.

4.15 Payroll

your organisation uses the \*\*\*\*\*\*\* payroll system. Keeping accurate payroll records is the responsibility of the Financial Administrator in conjunction with the Manager. These records include annual salary of each staff member, required deductions, annual leave, sick leave and bereavement leave.

The Gross amount is paid to Payroll, who hold funds in a Trust account for payment of the net amount to the staff member. Payment to the Inland Revenue Department of PAYE, bank, Kiwisaver, Student Loan repayments and Child Support payment is made as required.

Salaries of permanent staff members are paid fortnightly by automatic payment into a bank account designated by the staff member in accordance with their employment agreement.

Casual staff are required to complete timesheets. The necessary deductions are made and the balance paid by cheque or direct debit.

The Manager has the responsibility for hiring contractors as required. Quotes may be sought and payment for completed work made by direct credit on receipt of tax invoice.

4.16 Office premises

Office premises - The monthly payment for use of office premises is made by automatic payment.

4.17 Grant Funding

Your organisation receives funding from \*\*\*\*\*. your organisation will not seek or accept funds from organisations whose revenue is generated from gaming machines given the social impact they have on the community.

Lotteries and any other funding that is derived from gambling will be phased out with the aim to be able to financially sustain the organisation without any proceeds from gambling by 20xx.

4.18 Staff Functions

your organisation will contribute up to a maximum of $30 per head for up to 2 functions per year for staff, regular contractors and board members.

4.19 Staff Leaving Gifts

To ensure consistency and fairness your organisation has a policy of contributing to leaving gifts based on length of service. $40 following completion of twelve consecutive months of service and an additional $20 per year for each subsequent year.

**5. Fraud**

your organisation’s Trustees, managers and staff have a responsibility to protect the organisation’s reputation and resources from fraud, and the risk of fraud.

5.1 Policy Statement

The organisation’s Trustees accept that they have a responsibility to protect the physical and financial resources of your organisation and through the organisation’s Manager the Board is responsible for:

* Taking steps to deter and prevent fraud, theft and corruption by persons who are employed or contracted by the organisation or who are service recipients of the organisation
* Respecting the rights of employees to report concerns and make protected disclosures about any concerns
* Making sure that individuals reporting their concerns in good faith and in a responsible manner do not suffer detrimental action as a consequence thereof, so that disclosures of wrongdoing are seen as a positive aspect of organisational culture
* Treating seriously any allegation of suspected fraud, theft or corruption
* Taking prompt action on all reported concerns, both to bring the activity to an end and to discourage others who may be inclined to similar conduct
* Being satisfied as to the facts of the case before initiating any disciplinary or legal action. This will involve a preliminary assessment, and where appropriate, investigation of the allegation
* Notifying the New Zealand Police as warranted and / or appropriate
* Seeking legal or other advice on the matter where required
* Acting impartially, fairly, and equitably when handling cases of suspected fraud, theft or corruption, which includes having proper regard for the principles of natural justice and the avoidance of entrapment, bias, and favouritism
* Treating people consistently, regardless of their status, length of service, or position / title
* Co-operating fully with any investigations of alleged wrongdoing undertaken by external parties
* Exercising good judgement based on the evidence gathered and act on that judgement in the interest of Trustees, funders, staff and the public
* Imposing and articulating strong deterrent penalties, including seeking prosecution and recovery of any losses, wherever possible and practicable
* Making details of successful prosecutions public wherever possible

5.2 Implementation

The implementation and review of the Fraud policies are the responsibility of your organisation’s Trustees, in conjunction with any recommendations made by appointed Accountants/ Auditors:

* + - Any allegations concerning your organisation’s staff or related parties are to be made to the Manager, who will communicate these to the Chairperson and Trustees.
    - Any allegations concerning your organisation’s Manager are to be made to the Board Chairperson, who will communicate these to the remaining Trustees.
    - Any allegations concerning a your organisationTrustee are to be made to your organisation’s Manager who will advise the external auditor to commence an investigation.
    - your organisation’s Trusteeswill be responsible for all allegations brought to their attention, and the committee may as warranted and / or appropriate, notify the New Zealand Police and / or advise the external auditor to commence an investigation.

**6.0 Other Documents**

6.1 The following documents to be considered alongside this policy are:

* + - Trust Deed
    - Strategic and Operational Plans
    - Individual Employment Contracts
    - Maximising Our People Handbook
    - Human Resource Policies & Procedures
    - Te Tiriti o Waitangi – Treaty of Waitangi Policy
    - Health & Safety Policy
    - Certificate of Incorporation
    - Insurance Policies
    - Annual Accounts & Audit Report
    - Annual Budget

6.2 your organisation forms and templates:

* Expenses Reimbursement
* Petty Cash Reconciliation
* Koha Request Form
* Asset Register – under $1,000 (ex GST)
* Asset Register – $1,000 or greater (ex GST)

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