



**Media release for immediate use – October 27 2009**

**ELEVEN CANTERBURY PROJECTS PREPARE TO GENERATE MILLIONS**

Eleven projects considered likely to generate hundreds of millions of dollars for Canterbury have been selected to proceed to the second stage of the *Canterbury V5* initiative.

“*Canterbury V5* aims to identify projects which each have the potential to generate \$100million revenue for Canterbury within five years and \$1billion or more within 20 years,” says Project Manager Leeann Watson.

“The projects selected for stage two cover a wide range including water, agriculture, education, sport and tourism, have been selected from 18 first-round applications and potentially have regional and national significance,” she says.

Project teams must now present a more in-depth business case to judges Ruth Richardson, John Judge and Dr Keith Turner. The three judges will choose up to five projects to receive professional assistance to proceed to full feasibility stage, with the aim of seeing their plans realised.

Ms Watson says the overall criteria for the final five projects will be their potential to make a contribution towards increasing the wealth of Canterbury, the creation of new jobs and spin off opportunities that may result from the project.

Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce CEO Peter Townsend says the eleven second stage projects clearly demonstrate the extent of business opportunities in Canterbury.

“We want to help the final five project teams accelerate their projects by providing the support required, so they achieve the greatest possible outcomes for this region and the country. We hope the identification of these projects will help the Canterbury community understand what might be possible and how we can add further sustainable wealth to this region,” he says.

The eleven projects selected to proceed to the second stage are:

- Canterbury Museum Redevelopment Project
- Canterbury Water Management Strategy
- Canterbury-China Value Chain
- Central Plains Water Enhancement
- Christchurch Golf Resort Limited
- Hurunui Water Project
- International Student Village
- Lyttelton Port of Christchurch
- Project New Sun – Te Ao Hau
- SPACE – South Pacific Aviation Centre for Excellence
- The Lake Tekapo Aoraki Mt Cook Starlight Reserve

**ENDS – project overviews attached separately**

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