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Committee CDEM Group
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CDEM Conference 2007

1. Purpose

To inform the Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group (CDEM Group) about the 2007 Emergency Management Conference that was held on 4 and 5 October 2007.

2. Background

The 2007 Emergency Management Conference was a joint initiative between the Wellington Region CDEM Group and the Institution of Fire Engineers (New Zealand Branch).

The conference theme was 'Keeping Pace: Technology and Modern Emergency Management'.

The conference was attended by 270 delegates from a wider group than the more traditional civil defence emergency management conferences that have been held in the past. It encompassed a variety of organisations, including civil defence emergency management, utility lifelines services, emergency services, health agencies, government agencies, science and research institutions and the business sector.

3. Conference Programme

The conference programme consisted of 28 sessions with 32 presenters. Nine keynote addresses were delivered, of which three were by international speakers from the USA, Sweden and Australia.

Presentations were of a very high standard and it was pointed out by speakers, as well as delegates, that the diverse range of topics covered contributed to the overall success of the conference.

3.1 Conference Budget

An initial conference budget of \$180,000 was based on the expected attendance of 300 delegates. Sponsorship and the sale of exhibitor space to organisations contributed to the overall achievement to work within the planned budget.

4. Comment

The conference was a huge success.

Feedback received from delegates, speakers and exhibitors indicated that the conference was very professionally organised and managed. The diverse range of topics, excellent time management of sessions, the venue, the catering and the entertainment during the conference dinner added to the overall success of the conference.

The conference was a wonderful opportunity to build stronger relationships between emergency response agencies, the business sector, industry, local and central government and our communities. It was another opportunity to pull together the worlds of awareness, preparedness, science, policy and business enabling key people to share the same ideals and objectives.

5. Recommendations

That the CDEM Group:

- 1. receives the report; and*
- 2. notes the contents.*

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