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Media Release: Sustainable Business Network

New SBN Board elected for Bay of Plenty

For immediate Release

The Bay of Plenty's Sustainable Business Network has elected a new regional advisory board for 2010.

Members have elected manufacturing industry consultant Gavin Cherrie, Bayfair's operations manager Steve Ellingford, and communications consultant Bruce Fraser to the new board.

They are joined by cornerstone sponsor representatives Hendrik Metz from Fulton Hogan, Suzanne Porter from Opus and Miles McConway from Environment Bay of Plenty. Additionally the board has co-opted Comvita's learning and development manager, Nicky Benson, who is a previous national board member.

At its first meeting, new board members elected Bruce Fraser as Chairman and Steve Ellingford as Vice-Chairman. Bruce sees this as an exciting opportunity to build on the great reputation that the region has for producing high profile sustainable businesses.

"In Comvita and Design Mobel, the Bay of Plenty has been proud to be associated with two previous NZI National Sustainable Business Network Awards winners. Even with the economic recession, the mood amongst the region's businesses has been largely upbeat around the need to be more sustainable in their business practices," Bruce says.

The Sustainable Business Network is a forum for businesses that are interested in sustainable development practice. It promotes sustainable practice in New Zealand and supports businesses to succeed through sustainability.

Bruce says that by linking businesses and providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences, SBN can play a pivotal role in helping businesses become more sustainable. "We define Sustainable Business as the integration of economic growth, social equity and environmental management, both for now and for the future."

Bruce says that the regional advisory board is very fortunate to have a dynamic and competent Regional Manager in Jo Wills who has built up the success of the network over the past three years.

Ends

For further information contact Bruce Fraser on 021 687533



Or Jo Wills, BOP/WK Regional Manager on 021 686645

About Sustainable Business Network

The SBN is a business network of 700-plus members, with regional offices in Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington and Nelson.

Sustainable businesses are cost-efficient and productive, attract and retain loyal customers, and offer a great place to work. SBN provides advice and support to help business succeed through sustainability. SBN supports its members year-round with networking opportunities, practical tools, training, and sustainability assessments. www.sustainable.org.nz

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