

**7 August 2009**

## BDC to celebrate youth in Buller

The Buller District Council has adopted the Mayors taskforce for jobs initiative which is a celebration of young people aged under 25 years who are in appropriate education, training, work or other activities that contribute to their long-term economic independence and well being.

Council has sought input from various youth organisations around Westport including Buller REAP, Industry Training, Community Education & Training Centre and Tai Poutini Polytechnic. The group agreed to celebrate the achievement of young people who train or work and reside in Buller by acknowledging their commitment to learning and their own personal growth, and their positive contribution to our community.

This year, two awards will be presented by Mayor Pat McManus in mid October, with judging taking place during the week of 5<sup>th</sup> October.

The two categories are Young Learner/Apprentice of the year and Young Employee of the Year.

### Young Learner/Apprentice of the Year

Gaining qualifications through school, training programmes, polytechnic study, apprenticeship or on-the-job training is now an important step in a young person's transition from school to work. This award seeks to acknowledge the achievements of a student who has worked diligently, achieved at a high level, or made significant personal progress. Learners from high school through to tertiary training are eligible to be nominated for this award.

### Young Employee of the Year

Aimed at those in paid employment this award seeks to recognize a young person who exemplifies a strong work ethic, loyalty and commitment to their ongoing learning in the workforce.

To be eligible for the Young Learner/Apprentice of the Year award, the nominee needs to be currently engaged in training towards a formal qualification, or have completed this training after 30 September 2008.

To be eligible for Young Employee of the Year, nominees need to be currently employed in Buller, and nominations need to come from your employer.

Council is urging all education and training providers and businesses with young employees to consider their staff or students for these awards.

All nominees will be notified in writing, requesting their presence at the awards. Employers and family members are encouraged to come along and celebrate the achievements of young people in our community. Further information and Nomination forms can be collected from BDC Brougham Street office and downloaded from [www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)

**ENDS**



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