



The Federation of NZ
SeniorNet Societies Inc
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Newsletter 2008-1 January 25th 2008

1. Positive start to 2008.

The Federation committee had its first meeting for 2008 on 23rd January in Wellington.

The meeting was informed of the recent positive meetings held with officials of the T.E.C. just prior to Christmas and earlier this month.

In summary the T.E.C. has approved a further \$184,000 + GST of funding for 2008. Furthermore the T.E.C. has been instructed by the government to take on a brokering role on behalf of the Federation to engage other crown funding agencies. The two most likely other sources of such funding are the Department of Social Welfare and the Internal Affairs Department. The agreed intention is for the SeniorNet Federation and its Learning Centres to have a stable funding platform equal to 50% of the total annual operating cost of Learning Centres and the National Office. Currently this would represent approximately \$820,000 + GST.

The committee believes this is a significant step forward and is delighted with this news. Clearly more negotiations will need to take place but the deadlock that prevailed for most of 2007 has been broken. The determined efforts of us all turned the tide, well done everyone!

2. Learner Hour Rate for 2008.

You will recall the difficulties the Federation had in 2007 with finding a rate that could be sustained - finally a rate of \$2.05 (+ GST if applicable) being set late in December with adjustment payments being made accordingly.

The committee has decided to maintain the \$2.05 rate (+GST if applicable) for 2008.

This will be the rate your Learning Centre will invoice the Federation.

It is likely this rate will be adjusted to a higher rate subsequent to additional funding being made available to the Federation, this is in keeping with its policy to pass as much funding to the Learning Centres as possible.

3. Invoicing the Federation

It is very important all information is attached with invoices to the Federation.

However, many invoices received in 2007 were incomplete.

The committee has instructed Grant to now require all information to be complete on invoices before they are paid, so it is in your interests to ensure that this is done.

Please refer to the Federation Handbook on www.seniornet.co.nz

You will find this located under the Federation Documents tab on the homepage. The statistical information required is necessary for reporting purposes back to the T.E.C. Without complete information the funding the Federation receives could be placed in jeopardy.

To ensure timely payment of invoices please ensure all the information is provided.

The Federation undertakes to make payments on the 20th of every month so please make sure your invoices are with the National Office at least by the 15th day of every month for payment in that month.

4. Important Information required.

We regret that we have to ask for your cooperation in completing the attached questionnaire. But it is necessary for us to prepare an accurate report of our activities in 2007. It is also necessary for us to have the information for planning and negotiating purposes.

Unfortunately the lack of information we received with some invoices does not allow us to complete the demographic statistics for you.

Please complete it and return to Grant Sidaway grant@seniornet.co.nz by no later than Monday 25th February 2008.

The committee fully understands the additional effort required to do this and hopes the task will not be too time-consuming. For the most part it is information each Centre would have collected throughout the year.

A user-friendly administration database program is being trialed at the moment and it is hoped when this can be made available to Learning Centres in the early part of this year, then the capture of such information will be made significantly easier for everyone.

5. Visits to Learning Centres

Please contact Grant Sidaway directly to arrange a visit to your Learning Centre. The Federation has contracted him to make 40 visits to Learning Centres in 2008 along with attending Regional Meetings and Tutor Training Days. There may also be opportunities to make combined visits if scheduling can be arranged in time.

6. Special prices

We are always on the look out for good deals. Here is a couple that might interest the members of your Learning Centre.

- Microsoft Office 2007 Home and Student Edition
 - Normal retail price - \$299.00
 - Special price to Senionet Federation Learning Centres and their members - \$236.56 (includes free delivery)
 - **Special reduced price to SeniorNet Federation Learning Centres and their members - \$195.00 (includes free delivery)**

Microsoft Office 2007 Home and Student Edition has the following. Word 2007, Excel 2007, PowerPoint 2007 and OneNote 2007. This software can be installed on three separate computers.

- The Computer Book (Windows Vista Edition)
ISBN 978 1 4053 2547 9
 - Hard cover 511 pages
 - Recommended for learners at all levels
 - An easy-to-follow, jargon-free, and comprehensive illustrated guide to using Windows Vista
 - Normal retail price - \$55.00
 - **Special reduced price to SeniorNet Learning Centres and their members - \$35.75 (Includes free delivery)**

How to order:

1. Microsoft Office 2007 Home and Student Edition

Single and multiple orders may be placed directly with Grant by email grant@senionet.co.nz . Grant will arrange delivery from the supplier and invoice you directly

Orders accepted at the special price from Monday 28th Jan 2008.

2. The Computer Book

Orders must be in Quantities of 10 or more with delivery to a single address. To place an order email Grant directly.

grant@senionet.co.nz . Grant will arrange delivery from the supplier and invoice you directly

Orders accepted at the special price from Monday 28th Jan 2008

Best wishes for 2008

Ian Turner (Chairman)

Grant Sidaway (Executive Officer)