

Harcourts Grenadier C.E.O. honoured with REINZ fellowship



Christchurch's Robert McCormack, the chief executive officer of one of Harcourts most successful real estate businesses, has received the rare honour of being made a Fellow of the Real Estate Institute of New Zealand.

Mr McCormack, who became a Franchisee of Harcourts in 1991, was awarded a certificate in recognition of his elevation to fellowship at the recent Harcourts National Conference Awards Dinner in Auckland.

Harcourts New Zealand CEO Chris Kennedy says the honour is thoroughly deserved.

"In addition to leading a very successful and highly-regarded business, Mr McCormack has also given exceptional service to REINZ, the wider real estate industry and the many other companies and businesses he has been involved in" he says.

With Harcourts since 1979, Robert has been instrumental in establishing Harcourts Grenadier as one of the leading real estate franchises in New Zealand and worldwide and has also played a key role in the industry. This includes through his fellowship of the New Zealand Institute of Management which he was awarded in 2005.

Totally invested in his community and 'giving back', in 2003 Rob set up the Clyde Huntley *First Class Charitable Trust* for an agent who developed a life-threatening brain tumour and the Trust was funded by Grenadier and Grenadier agents who agreed to have monies deducted from their unconditional contracts.

He is the founding member of the Real Estate Cadetship programme which began in 2006 which has achieved 42 graduates. In more recent years, Grenadier founded another graduate intake scheme which offers individuals a salary for 6 months to allow them financial security while they learn about the real estate industry with the

comfort of an income, breaking down the barriers to those who want to join the industry. This scheme has inducted over 40 graduates from five intakes over three years.

Mr McCormack has had a long-time involvement in the 'Harcourts Foundation' which has seen the Harcourts Grenadier offices donate more than \$100,000 to local charities. He is also a strong supporter of the Grenadier Charity Golf Day, which since it began in 2009 has raised over \$250,000 for Canterbury charities who work with troubled youth.

Grenadier is currently in negotiations to fund the Residential Care Wing at the new Akaroa Hub, and are working with the Chair of Fundraising Appeal of the Akaroa Hub Trust, Paul da Latour.

Chris Kennedy continued, "Given his achievements in business, across the wider industry and for his community, I'm thrilled to see Rob receive this special honour."

Mr McCormack says he is humbled to have been made a fellow of REINZ. I was delighted when I was inducted into the Harcourts Hall of Fame in 2005, and now to receive this recognition is the icing on the cake."

"The work I've put in over the years has never been done with any sort of recognition in mind. I believe in being 100% committed and passionate about everything I do, so I've been committed to doing the best that I can for real estate and for our communities in Christchurch."

"This accolade came as a complete surprise, I am so proud to have been recognised in this way" he says, "and I feel very honoured."