



MEDIA RELEASE

11 May 2010

Waikato familiar territory for new SBS Bank Hamilton manager

After 34 years in the banking industry, many would often be looking to slow down their career. That is not the case for SBS Bank's Nelson manager Rod Fox who is about to embark on new challenges in a move to the helm of the Hamilton branch next week. *(NB: Monday 17 May).*

SBS Bank general manager retail Paul Atkinson said Mr Fox's wealth of banking industry know-how and strong commitment to getting involved in the community would be welcomed when he joined the team at SBS Bank Hamilton.

"Rod's commitment to help our Nelson branch grow into such a strong and vibrant community asset means he is leaving the Nelson team in good heart. It is his huge commitment and enthusiasm toward SBS Bank and our community and people-focused values that will be welcomed by our customers when he transfers to Hamilton."

Mr Fox said the move to the Waikato would take him back to familiar territory as he had originally moved from there to start with SBS Bank as manager of Nelson in 2001.

"I've worked in the industry from Canterbury to Kaitia and the challenge of following up on the great things that our now Christchurch-based manager Nicki Bennett achieved during her seven years in Hamilton will be exciting.

"I'm certainly going to miss the strong community relationships I have formed here in Nelson but I will definitely be no stranger and there are many more new relationships that can be nurtured in Hamilton.

"We're not a dissimilar breed in our interests and community values here at SBS Bank, which is what attracted me to SBS Bank in the first place. It is an organisation that has principles and a mission statement that you can truly feel and believe."

An active community advocate, Mr Fox has been involved with the Inner City Safety Committee, is Chair of the Nelson Eureka Sister City Association, the current President of the Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce, was the founding president of Wakefield Lions and has been actively involved in his church.

Mr Fox said he respects the fact that SBS Bank represents integrity, is New Zealand owned and has more than 140 years supporting its members and communities. With his family now grown it was an opportune time to look at new challenges.

"It will be sad to farewell the great team and community relationships I've built here in Nelson, but I will look forward immensely to popping back and catching up with everyone."

For further information contact: *(see below)*

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