



# The Totara

*our philosophy tree*

## *Playcentre and You*

### **For your Whānau/Family**

Choose your sessions: how many, what type

Friendships

Support and understanding

A stronger sense of community

Involvement within your centre

Training opportunities through workshops

Employment opportunities

Social activities

### **For your Playcentre**

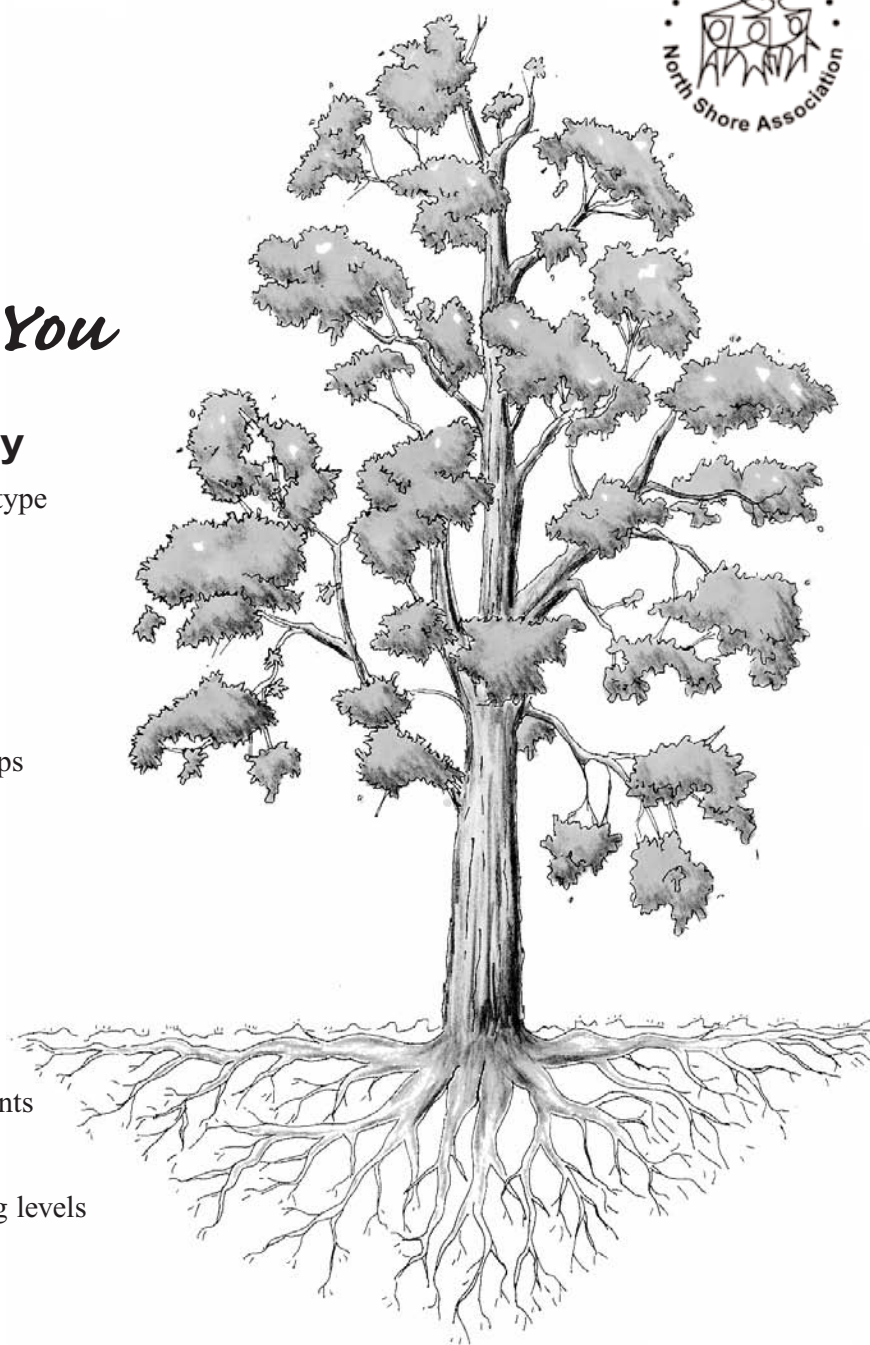
Participate and organise fundraising events

Hold an office position of your choice

Enable your centre through your training levels

Involvement at Association level

Employment opportunities



### **Playcentre: The Unshakeables**

Providers of a complete Early Childhood Education

Whānau/Families are the best educators

Whānau/Family co-operative

Commitment to Te Tiriti O Waitangi

Birth to six years

High adult to child ratios

Mixed age group sessions

Child-initiated play

Welcome and celebrate diversity of cultures

Families and individuals are supported as they change and grow

Participate in Adult Education

Positive behaviour management

A minimum of two sessions a week for children over 2½

Sessions are 2½ hours

Decision making by Consensus

Involvement in the daily decisions and planning



## **The meaning behind the Philosophy Tree**

*Te Tōtara, te Tōtara mārohirohi, ka tu kaha rawa,  
ka tu whakahīhī rawa ka tu teitei rawa nei*

*The Totara, the mighty Totara, it stands so strong  
so proud and so tall*

***Ko ngā huarakau me ngā puawai-a tātou tamariki***  
***The Fruit and Flowers – our Children***

Grow from the tree to mature and in turn produce seeds that start the growing cycle again.

***He āhuatanga-ō tātou whakataunga***  
***The Leaves – our Personal Choices***

They are what finishes off the tree making it whole.  
Without them you don't have anything to nurture the fruit and flowers.

***Ko ngā heke-Kia āhei te whariterite***  
***The Branches – the Negotiables***

Without them, you only have a stump in the ground that can't grow.  
A tree has many branches, you don't need them all, but for a tree to continue growing  
you need to have some.

***Ko te poutāhuhu-Tō tātau whakāmatau***  
***The Trunk – our Unshakables***

What makes Playcentre unique is the strength of our philosophy.  
This makes us different from other early childhood centres.

***Ko ngā take-ō Tātou Whakarō pūtanga***  
***The Roots – our Centres***

They are the source of our food. Without them, the tree can not grow.  
Without our centres there is no Playcentre.