

23 October 2014

For immediate release

## Olympic hopeful receives AMP Regional Scholarship

The Olympics are one paddle closer for determined young sprint canoeist, Kim Thompson, as she is announced the regional recipient of the Gisborne Financial Services Regional Scholarship, receiving \$5000.

At just 18 years of age, the young sportswoman was selected from 46 other applicants across Gisborne to receive a Gisborne Financial Services 'Do Your Thing' Regional Scholarship.

Kim has been awarded one of 12 Regional Scholarships across the country. Each Regional Scholarship recipient is awarded \$5000 to 'do their thing', and AMP will provide an additional top up of up to \$5,000 to one of the Regional Scholarship recipients at the AMP Scholarships National Awards evening on 4 December.

Katie Holden of Gisborne Financial Services, says: "Kim is a pretty inspirational young lady, having already achieved some incredible accomplishments in life - competitively representing New Zealand on more than one occasion as a sprint canoeist."

"I'm so thrilled to be awarded a Gisborne Financial Services Regional Scholarship. It will go towards national training camps or team trips overseas, to help me perform to my best on the world stage," says Kim Thompson.

"My goal is to represent New Zealand at the Olympic games for canoe sprint and I aim to race at Rio 2016. I started kayaking six years ago as both my parents are involved in the sport, so it has always been very easy for me to get out on the water. I love the feeling and freedom it gives you."

"I made my first New Zealand team at the Junior World Championships in 2011, in Germany. I loved the trip and the training - it was an amazing experience. In 2013, I achieved New Zealand's only medal at this level in Canada. This year I made the under 23 New Zealand team for World Championships. I also moved up to Auckland to attend university and train with the Open Women Team, the best in the world."

Kim continues: "I'm hooked on the sport and the lifestyle. I love training and racing, and the summer coaching is a lot of fun. Next year I hope to make the Open New Zealand team for World Cups and World Championships and it will also be the qualifying year for New Zealand's boats in the Olympics, so a big year. From there I aim to race at Rio 2016 and Tokyo in 2020."

Katie Holden concludes: "We're delighted the \$5000 Gisborne Financial Services Regional Scholarship will be put to good use with a person whose values of passion, hard-work and determination aligns with that of our team."

Gisborne Financial Services is a local company involved in insurance, investment and advice / management.

For more information, visit [doyourthing.co.nz](http://doyourthing.co.nz) or [www.gisfin.co.nz](http://www.gisfin.co.nz).

## ENDS

Prepared on behalf of AMP 'Do Your Thing' Scholarships programme by the pr shop. For more information or images, please contact Lindsay Stanley on [lindsay@theprshop.co.nz](mailto:lindsay@theprshop.co.nz) or 09 360 0385.

### Notes to Editor:

#### About AMP:

- AMP is a leading wealth management and insurance provider in the New Zealand marketplace and has been supporting the financial welfare of customers for 160 years
- Our customers hold more than 870,000 investment, savings and insurance products
- AMP has one of the largest networks of advisers in New Zealand
- AMP is the only default KiwiSaver provider with both a 'silver' rating from Morningstar and a 5 Star Canstar Award
- AMP has approximately 260,000 KiwiSaver Scheme members and more than \$3 billion funds under management, equating to around 14% market share
- We've awarded more than \$1.8 million in the last 16 years through our AMP Foundation
- In 2013 we:
  - helped more than 1,800 kiwis buy their first home through KiwiSaver
  - paid out \$46.75 million in general insurance claims
  - supported approximately 73,000 New Zealanders who were unable to work because of an injury or illness by paying out nearly \$9 million in income protection insurance
  - wrote \$644 million in new mortgages, and
  - provided advice over the phone to more than 150,000 New Zealanders – more than 400 people per day.

#### About 'Do Your Thing':

- **AMP National Scholarships:** 11 National Scholarships are available each consisting of one payment of up to a maximum of \$10,000. Recipients will be invited to the AMP Scholarships National Awards evening on 4 December
- **AMP Regional Scholarships:** 12 Regional Scholarships are being offered by 11 Adviser Businesses in the AMP Financial Adviser Network. Each will award a scholarship of up to \$5,000 to help someone in their region do their thing. AMP will select and provide a top up of up to \$5,000 to one of the Regional Scholarship recipients
- **Study Start Scholarship:** is for a Year 12 or 13 student who is aiming to make a positive difference in New Zealand through their field of study or training. The scholarship is worth up to a maximum of \$10,000
- **People's Choice Scholarship:** People's Choice gives you the opportunity to tell friends, family and colleagues about 'your thing' and win their support by getting them to vote through Facebook. The scholarship is worth up to \$10,000
- **AMP People Scholarship:** is for AMP employees and Advisers in the AMP Financial Adviser Network who want to do their thing. The scholarship is worth up to \$5,000.
- Full terms & conditions can be found on [www.doyourthing.co.nz](http://www.doyourthing.co.nz)