MEMBERSHIP

Adrian Broad (Chairperson)
Leonie Hapeta (Deputy Chairperson)
Grant Smith (The Mayor)
Brent Barrett
Rachel Bowen
Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke
Vaughan Dennison
Lew Findlay QSM
Duncan McCann
Aleisha Rutherford
Tangi Utikere

Agenda items, if not attached, can be viewed at:

pncc.govt.nz | Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square
City Library | Ashhurst Community Library | Linton Library

Heather Shotter
Chief Executive, Palmerston North City Council
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

12 August 2019

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Apologies

2. Notification of Additional Items

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to receive the Chairperson’s explanation that specified item(s), which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded, will be discussed.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7) must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7A) may be received or referred to a subsequent meeting for further discussion. No resolution, decision or recommendation can be made in respect of a minor item.

3. Declarations of Interest (if any)

Members are reminded of their duty to give a general notice of any interest of items to be considered on this agenda and the need to declare these interests.

4. Public Comment

To receive comments from members of the public on matters specified on this Agenda or, if time permits, on other Committee matters.

(NOTE: If the Committee wishes to consider or discuss any issue raised that is not specified on the Agenda, other than to receive the comment made or refer it to the Chief Executive, then a resolution will need to be made in accordance with clause 2 above.)
5. Presentation - Nero Restaurant

6. Presentation - Tui Early Learners

7. Presentation - Chard Consulting Limited

8. Confirmation of Minutes

   “That the minutes of the Economic Development Committee meeting of 10 June 2019 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.”

9. International Relations 6-monthly update

   Memorandum, dated 23 July 2019 presented by Toni Grace, International Relations Manager.

10. Committee Work Schedule

11. Exclusion of Public

   To be moved:

   “That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

   The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General subject of each matter to be considered</th>
<th>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</th>
<th>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.
Also that the persons listed below be permitted to remain after the public has been excluded for the reasons stated.

Chief Executive (Heather Shotter), Chief Financial Officer (Grant Elliott), Chief Infrastructure Officer (Tom Williams), General Manager – Strategy and Planning (Sheryl Bryant), General Manager - Community (Debbie Duncan), Chief Customer and Operating Officer (Chris Dyhrberg), General Manager - Marketing and Communications (Sacha Haskell), Sandra King (Executive Officer) because of their knowledge and ability to provide the meeting with advice on matters both from an organisation-wide context (being members of the Council’s Executive Leadership Team) and also from their specific role within the Council.

Legal Counsel (John Annabell), because of his knowledge and ability to provide the meeting with legal and procedural advice.

Governance and Legal Team Leader (Charlotte Greig) and Committee Administrators (Penny Odell, Rachel Corser and Natalya Kushnirenko), because of their knowledge and ability to provide the meeting with procedural advice and record the proceedings of the meeting.

[Add Council Officers], because of their knowledge and ability to assist the meeting in speaking to their report and answering questions, noting that such officer will be present at the meeting only for the item that relate to their respective report.

[Add Third Parties], because of their knowledge and ability to assist the meeting in speaking to their report/s [or other matters as specified] and answering questions, noting that such person/s will be present at the meeting only for the items that relate to their respective report/s [or matters as specified].
PRESENTATION

TO: Economic Development Committee

MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019

TITLE: Presentation - Nero Restaurant

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. That the Economic Development Committee receive the presentation for information.

SUMMARY

Scott Kennedy, owner of Nero Restaurant, will speak about his local business and his ambassadorial role for NZ Beef and Lamb worldwide.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil
PRESENTATION

TO: Economic Development Committee

MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019

TITLE: Presentation - Tui Early Learners

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. That the Economic Development Committee receive the presentation for information.

SUMMARY

Lars and Deborah Pedersen, Directors of Tui Early Learners, Supreme Winners of the 2018 Westpac Manawatu Business Awards, will make a presentation about their success.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil
PRESENTATION

TO: Economic Development Committee
MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019
TITLE: Presentation - Chard Consulting Limited

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. That the Economic Development Committee receive the presentation for information.

SUMMARY

Fiona Chard, Managing Director of Chard Consulting Limited, together with her team, will speak about how a small, Palmerston North based business provides business management advice to nationwide organisations.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil
Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 10 June 2019, commencing at 9.00am

Members Present: Councillor Adrian Broad (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Duncan McCann and Aleisha Rutherford.


Apologies: Councillor Tangi Utikere (lateness)

Councillor Vaughan Dennison was present when the meeting resumed at 10.34am. He was not present for clause 20.

Councillor Tangi Utikere was present when the meeting resumed at 10.34am. He was not present for clause 20.

20-19 Apologies

Moved Adrian Broad, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 20-19 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:
The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Adrian Broad, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Jim Jefferies, Lorna Johnson, Duncan McCann, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas and Aleisha Rutherford.

The meeting adjourned at 9.01am
The meeting resumed at 10.34am

When the meeting resumed Councillors Vaughan Dennison and Tangi Utikere were present.
21-19  Presentation - Fonterra Research and Development Centre

Mark Piper made a presentation regarding the current work of Fonterra Research and Development Centre.

The Centre was established and had been located in Palmerston North since 1927, resulting in a long history with a diverse workforce. There was sometimes a challenge in attracting people to New Zealand but there had been no issues in attracting people to the Manawatu region.

There was no such thing as a global consumer with products such as cheese differing in various countries across the world. There was however a connected consumer, with an increase in consumers viewing and purchasing products online. To understand the market, it was essential to visit the market. It was an exciting time to be in the food industry and there was a great focus on sustainability and environmental issues such as reducing greenhouse gas, the use of fuel and looking at types of packaging used.

Moved Adrian Broad, seconded Rachel Bowen.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the Economic Development Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 21-19 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:
The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Adrian Broad, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Jim Jefferies, Lorna Johnson, Duncan McCann, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas, Aleisha Rutherford and Tangi Utikere.

22-19  Presentation - Rural Innovation Lab

James Stewart and Matt Hocken made a presentation regarding the Rural Innovation Lab which was a collaborative network between farmers and growers.

There were many talented people in the region and the lab was about bringing it all together. A bootcamp was planned for June which would enable farmers and growers to come together and discuss issues and ideas.

A ‘smartfarm’ network had been created which connected smart farmers and growers with others and would build capability to absorb new ideas and think innovatively.
Farming would always be required and so it was important to build the capability of farmers within the region.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the Economic Development Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 22-19 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:
The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Adrian Broad, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Jim Jefferies, Lorna Johnson, Duncan McCann, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas, Aleisha Rutherford and Tangi Utikere.

23-19 Presentation - 2019 NZ AgriFood Week

Tessa Lyons and Jemma Brackebush made a presentation regarding the 2019 NZ AgriFood Week.

There were many sponsors and partners for the event which created a platform for dialogue and networking. Objectives for 2019 were to raise the national and international profile, to grow the audience and online presence of the event and to host an international speaker.

The marketing campaign highlighted the expertise in the Manawatu for the week long event. The campaign resulted in nearly 1 million digital impressions, 23 articles published and 2 prime time breakfast television segments.

It was noted that planning for the 2020 event had commenced and Council was thanked for supporting the AgriFood Week.

Moved Leonie Hapeta, seconded Aleisha Rutherford.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the Economic Development Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 23-19 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:
The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Adrian Broad, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Jim Jefferies, Lorna Johnson, Duncan McCann, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas, Aleisha Rutherford and Tangi Utikere.
24-19  Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Adrian Broad, seconded Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the minutes of the Economic Development Committee meeting of 13 May 2019 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 24-19 above was carried 15 votes to 0, with 1 abstention, the voting being as follows:

For:
The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Adrian Broad, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Jim Jefferies, Lorna Johnson, Duncan McCann, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas and Tangi Utikere.

Abstained:
Councillor Aleisha Rutherford.

25-19  Committee Work Schedule

Moved Adrian Broad, seconded Aleisha Rutherford.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED


Clause 25-19 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:
The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Adrian Broad, Gabrielle Bundy-Cooke, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay QSM, Leonie Hapeta, Jim Jefferies, Lorna Johnson, Duncan McCann, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas, Aleisha Rutherford and Tangi Utikere.

The meeting finished at 11.39am

Confirmed 12 August 2019

Chairperson
MEMORANDUM

TO: Economic Development Committee

MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019

TITLE: International Relations 6-monthly update

PRESENTED BY: Toni Grace, International Relations Manager

APPROVED BY: Sheryl Bryant, General Manager - Strategy & Planning

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. That the Committee note the progress of International Relations activity over the past six months, contributing to the International Relations Plan and Economic Development Strategy

1. ISSUE

The purpose of this memorandum is to update the Economic Development Committee on the development of Palmerston North’s key international relationships and outcomes over the past six months, and their contribution to the relevant goal, strategy and plan.

2. BACKGROUND

On the establishment of the PNCC International Relations Office, Council agreed that a six-monthly report to the Economic Development Committee was an appropriate mechanism for keeping Council informed of general progress and developments.

3. NEXT STEPS

The International Relations Office will continue to deliver actions as outlined in the report and International Relations Plan.

4. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?  Yes

If Yes quote relevant clause(s) from Delegations Manual <Enter clause>

Are the decisions significant?  No

If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?
### ITEM 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council’s policies or plans?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The recommendations contribute to Goal 1: An Innovative and Growing City

The recommendations contribute to the outcomes of the Economic Development Strategy

The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in the International Relations Plan

The action is: All actions

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. August 2019 International Relations 6 monthly update [link]
2. PNCC International Relations news and articles Feb-Aug 2019 [link]
3. Krista’s Year One Kunshan Report [link]
Update on International Relations Activity

Palmerston North City Council - Economic Development Committee
Monday 12 August 2019

This report provides an update on International Relations activities and outcomes managed through the Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) international relations office, over the past 6 months.

Global City Partnerships

Missoula, Montana, United States of America

What we’ve been up to

- A 14-member delegation from Missoula visited Palmerston North during the week of the 2019 Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ) conference in March, most of whom stayed hosted with local hosts.
- The delegation included two Missoula City Councillors, the Director of the Montana World Trade Centre, two representatives from Arts Missoula, three from the University of Montana, and several Native American community representatives.
- The visit advanced many areas of common interest, including indigenous connection and exchange, international education, research, business cooperation, city management, civil defence and the arts.

Where we’re going

- PNCC and Missoula have established an International Manager staff exchange which will see these opportunities explored more deeply, and a roadmap for cooperation established.
- The PNCC International Relations Manager will be in Missoula for 8 weeks from September to November 2019 to establish working connections between economic development agencies, business incubators, community and non-profit groups, and tertiary, secondary & primary schools. Missoula also plans to hold its annual New Zealand Day celebration during this time.
- PNCC is also communicating with Te-Putahi-a Toi at Massey University to advance projects around indigenous knowledge exchange and connectivity.
# Guiyang, Guizhou Province, China

## What we've been up to

- The Deputy Mayor led an education delegation visit to Guiyang in May. This included representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Education New Zealand, Massey University, IPU New Zealand, St Peter’s College, Awatapu College, Palmerston North Boys’ High School, Palmerston North Girls’ High School and Freyberg High School.

- This delegation was the third and largest delegation of Manawatu providers that has visited Guiyang.

- Earlier the same week, the Deputy Mayor also attended the China International Big Data Expo in Guiyang, along with New Zealand’s Consul General, Stephen Wong from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Dr Sunil Lal from Massey University.

- The Deputy Mayor’s international air travel for this trip was covered by the Air New Zealand Award voucher that PNCC won in May last year at the Sister Cities New Zealand annual awards for the “Best Commercial Project 2018”.

- These visits received both government and public media attention, including TV news coverage of the Palmerston North education visit.

- The Mayoral travel grant was awarded to a student at an education agency Palmerston North information event for prospective students and parents.

- The community-led “Manawatu Stories” WeChat page is up to over 800 followers, sharing authentic Palmerston North stories and experiences via China’s most popular social media platform.

## Where we're going

- The recipient of the Mayoral Guiyang Travel Grant is coming to Palmerston North in August, along with her family. CEDA is working with local high schools to develop the visit programme.

- Awatapu College has matched the travel grant with an additional scholarship, allowing another student and teacher from Guiyang to come out at the same time.

- The visitors will be hosted by local families and spend time experiencing our high schools and other activities in the region. Their visit experience will be captured for future education marketing and promotion purposes back in China/Guiyang.

- The next major engagement with Guiyang is likely to be aligned with the 2020 China New Zealand Mayoral Forum.

- PNCC is beginning discussion with CEDA and other Councils in the region about the opportunity to leverage this event to promote our priority sectors, especially agriculture and aviation.

- Continue to support the “Manawatu Stories” WeChat page and other local community efforts to build positive relationships and information channels back to China.
### Kunshan, Suzhou Region, China

**What we’ve been up to**

- A delegation of six from Kunshan visited Palmerston North in May.
- This included the Vice Chairman of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference of Kunshan, the Deputy Director of the Kunshan Culture, Sports, Radio, Television, and Tourism Bureau, the Deputy Director of the Kunshan Health Commission, the Deputy Director of the R&D Centre, and The Director of the Kunshan International Relations Centre.
- Their visit included visits to Massey University, Enable New Zealand (including a presentation from the DHB), Massey University, Te Manawa and the Herb Farm.

**Where we’re going**

- Another Palmerston North student was awarded a full-tuition Duke Kunshan University scholarship for 2019, though this year the student decided not to pursue the opportunity.
- PNCC will continue to work with the current Palmerston North Youth Ambassador to advance the friendship city youth connection. (See Krista’s year one report attached)
- The next major engagement with Kunshan is likely to be aligned with the 2020 China New Zealand Mayoral Forum.
- PNCC is beginning discussion with CEDA and other Councils in the region about the opportunity to leverage this event to promote our priority sectors, especially agriculture and aviation.

### Mihara, Hiroshima, Japan

**What we’ve been up to**

- At the 2019 SCNZ conference, Palmerston North formalised its City Partnership with Mihara City.
- The relationship has grassroots origins with exchanges of students, sportspeople and community groups over the years. An official exchange of emergency management experts and education partnerships with Palmerston North’s IPU campus have been established.
- During their visit the Mihara delegation had meetings with IPU, Massey University, civil defence agencies, the Manawatu Chamber of Commerce, and a skype between school classrooms.

**Where we’re going**

- The Hiroshima New Zealand Friendship Society has again generously sponsored Palmerston North triathlete David Martin to travel to Japan and take part in the Mihara Sagishima Triathlon in August 2019. David came second at last year’s Sagishima Triathlon.
- IPU’s Japan Campus is advancing a comprehensive English language teaching programme to Mihara preschools, primary and secondary schools attached to Hiroshima University, which aims to increase future international education pathways.
Wageningen, Gelderland, The Netherlands (scoping strategic relations)

What we’ve been up to

- Initial Sister City discussions have evolved into a proposal for a Strategic City Partnership, focussed on supporting cooperation between our food tech sectors.
- Recent correspondence from the Mayor of Wageningen shows support for this direction across government, academia and sector leads, and a willingness to do cooperate more together.

Where we’re going

- PNCC is in discussions with Massey University and other stakeholders about ways to develop this strategic relationship, such as linking up innovation corridors and regional clusters in agri-food and horticulture.

Contribution to the International Relations Plan objectives and actions:

- Develop agreements with existing international partner cities, and support their implementation
- Develop cooperation roadmaps that plan out key activities with our priority partner cities
- Promote our city’s interests, objectives and brand to international partners.
- Facilitate the establishment of Sister School relationships between local schools and international partner cities.
- Welcome and encourage quality overseas international education providers that are partnering with institutions in our city.
- Coordinate with community partners (e.g. Massey, UCOL, IPU, business networks, firms and community groups) to organise international activities and visits, and to identify ways for PNCC to add value to local efforts
- Acquire valuable knowledge and insight from international partners in areas of mutual interest (e.g. city management, environmental sustainability, emergency management).
- Help local businesses to access new export markets, integrate with global value chains and connect to international knowledge networks.
Domestic activities overview

2019 Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ) Conference

Palmerston North hosted one of the most successful Sister Cities New Zealand conferences in recent years. Held from 21-23 March 2019 at the Palmerston North Conference and Function Centre, the 2019 SCNZ Conference attracted around 150 participants across the three days.

The conference theme “Prosperity Through Partnership” explored the economic development opportunities of international city relationships. A new report by the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) titled “From Sister to Global Cities: The economics of New Zealand’s Sister City relationships”, was launched at the conference and framed the discussion.

Speakers included CEOs, Mayors, Ambassadors, academics, and Council and community representatives from around the country, as well as international speakers from America, China and Japan.

The costs to PNCC of hosting the conference were minimal, with the majority of funding sourced from conference registrations, commercial sponsors and central government. The Palmy Global Ambassadors (youth leaders) provided valuable support throughout the event and also led the Korero Youth Dialogue panel on the final day.

For further information and images, please refer to the SCNZ newsletter attachments.

Contribution to International Relations Plan objectives and actions:

- Partner with national agencies, including MFAT, MBIE, NZTE, LGNZ, the diplomatic corps, Sister Cities NZ and the Asia NZ Foundation to align objectives and make the most of central resources and networks.

- Promote our city’s interests, objectives and brand to international partners.

- International relationships support the flow of ideas and initiatives, allowing us to “Think Global, Act Local”

- Seek out valuable international networks and innovators, and share ideas and knowledge with our international partners which can be usefully applied to local issues of interest.

- Young people have the opportunity to learn about other cultures and languages through our international relationships and education providers, supporting their future participation in the global community and economy.
Cultural contributions from Mihara & Missoula

The visiting delegations from Missoula and Mihara both contributed significant public art pieces and cultural performances to the Palmerston North community during their visits, to mark our special relationships.

Missoula delegation member Willow Kipp—a member of the Blackfeet and Shosone-Bannock Nation Tribes—worked with local Māori artists to create a street mural as an addition to Palmerston North’s public art collection. The mural adorns the side of the Distinction Motel, which was accommodating many of the SCNZ conference delegates at the time. Willow and her mother, Michelle Kipp, also performed at the opening ceremony of the Festival of Cultures and at the SCNZ conference dinner.

To mark the formalisation of the city partnership with Palmerston North, the Mihara delegation gifted Palmerston North’s Te Manawa Museum a framed landscape drawing and a replica Samurai armour on permanent loan to the museum. The Mihara delegation also performed a traditional Yassa Dance (which their city is famous for in Japan) at the Festival of Cultures opening ceremony.

For further information and images, please refer to the SCNZ newsletter attachments.

Contribution to International Relations Plan objectives and actions:

- International city partnerships are a platform for economic, educational and cultural exchange.
- The community is familiar with our international city relationships and can get involved.
- Promote our international relations at public events, such as language weeks and cultural festivals.

Pōwhiri at Te Rangimarie Marae

Both the Missoula and Mihara delegations were joined by City Council and community members as they were welcomed onto Te Rangimarie Marae with a formal pōwhiri from Rangitāne Īwi.

Following the ceremony, the visitors had the opportunity to enjoy cultural demonstrations (including traditional weaving and musical instruments), a hangi meal, a performance by Te Piringa Hapa Haka, and an overnight stay at the Marae. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by the visiting delegations, who commented that they appreciated the warmth of the welcome and the opportunity for Māori cultural immersion.

Contribution to International Relations Plan objectives and actions:

- We support Rangitāne o Manawatū having a key role in welcoming
important guests to our city, and increasingly as key partners in the economic development objectives of international relations.

- As a city, manakitanga is strongest when practiced alongside mana whenua. We therefore will prioritise our partnerships with Rangitāne o Manawatū to strengthen our key roles in welcoming international guests and leading civic engagement on behalf of the community.

### Korean Government & Student Visit

As part of the New Zealand–Korea Free Trade Agreement signed in 2015, the Korean government sponsors around 150 students annually to study in New Zealand for two months, organised by the Schools International Education Business Association (SIEBA). Until now, the students have only been hosted by the Waikato, Canterbury and Nelson regions, but this year the programme has been extended to include the Manawatū region.

To mark the first group of students to our region, the His Excellency the Korean Ambassador, along with officials from the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Education, joined a group of 25 students at a Mayoral welcome in the Palmerston North City Council Chambers in July.

The visitors were also welcomed by Kaumatua Wiremu & Trieste Te Awe Awe, representing Rangitāne iwi, and enjoyed performances by the Palmerston North Boys’ High School Kapa Haka group. Representatives from local high schools hosting the students (St Peter’s College, Awatapu College, Palmerston North Boys’ High School, Palmerston North Girls’ High School and Feilding High School) also joined the welcome.

**Contribution to International Relations Plan objectives and actions:**

- Welcome and encourage quality overseas international education providers that are partnering with institutions in our city.

- Partner with national agencies, including MFAT, MBIE, NZTE, LGNZ, the diplomatic corps, Sister Cities NZ and the Asia NZ Foundation to align objectives and make the most of central resources and networks.

- Coordinate with community partners (e.g. Massey, UCOL, IPU, business networks, firms and community groups) to organize international activities and visits, and to identify ways for PNCC to add value to local efforts.

- We support Rangitāne o Manawatū having a key role in welcoming important guests to our city, and increasingly as key partners in the economic development objectives of international relations.
Since the establishment of the international relations office in October 2016, PNCC has been involved in over 70 international visits or meetings. These meetings have supported a range of important international connections for Palmerston North, including business (10 visits), education (30 visits), government (15 visits), diplomats (10) and community delegations (5 visits). Since the last report in February 2018, PNCC has been directly involved in the following 12 international visits/meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2019</td>
<td>Japanese business leaders’ visit to Mayor (with IPU)</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC)</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR)</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2019</td>
<td>Missoula delegation visit – 14 members</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mihara Visit – 8 members</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 Diplomatic Representatives attended the Festival of Cultures: Argentina,</td>
<td>Varied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estonia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Malta, Fiji, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Kuwait,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the EU, the Philippines, Panama, Russia, Samoa, Thailand, Timor-Leste, United</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arab Emirates, and USA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2019</td>
<td>Cuban &amp; Argentinian Ambassador visit and public Seminar</td>
<td>Cuba &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>Deputy Mayor visit to Guiyang (outbound) for Education Mission &amp; Big Data Expo</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>Kunshan City visit – Tourism, culture, education &amp; health meetings</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2019</td>
<td>Myanmar Young Leader’s Programme</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vietnamese student visit (ETC)</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PLAN OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS:

- Promote our city’s interests, objectives and brand to international partners.
- Effectively manage inbound and outbound official delegations, and relationships with embassies and high commissions.
- Encourage and support international partners to actively participate in our local economy.
- Coordinate with community partners (e.g. CEDA, Massey, UCOL, IPU, business networks, firms and community groups) to organize international activities and visits, and to identify ways for PNCC to add value to local efforts.
Prosperity through Partnership: 2019 SCNZ conference

By Toni Grace, Palmerston North City Council

SCNZ Conference 2019 was a roaring success, with over 150 participants, top-notch presenters, the launch of a new report, and a host of new sponsors delivering the event.

SCNZ 2019 was proudly supported by main conference partner, Toyota New Zealand, as well as supporting sponsors Air New Zealand, MFAT, LGNZ, Orbit World Travel, CLAIR, the Japanese Embassy, the 2019 China NZ Year of Tourism, Palmerston North City Council (PNCC), Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) and the Universal College of Learning (UCOL).

The theme for the 2019 conference was “Prosperity through Partnership”, exploring the many ways that cities and regional centres have a role in supporting international connectivity, innovation and sustainable business. A new report by the NZ Institute for Economic Research (NZIER) helped to frame the conversation, exploring the economic role of Sister Cities and some best practice guidelines for both Councils, community groups and business.

The conference also explored themed panel sessions, including how Maori and Indigenous exchange and environmental cooperation can be incorporated into city-to-city partnerships. Special presentation topics also highlighted the opportunity to leverage major events and initiatives, such as the 2019 China NZ Year of Tourism and 2019 Rugby World Cup in Japan, as well as upcoming events such as the 2020 NZ China Mayoral Forum and 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The conference provided several break-out workshop sessions allowing delegates to deep-dive into issues such as regional cooperation, trade and business, international education, emergency management and youth development.

The conference opened with a sombre tone following the recent Christchurch terror attacks. Though the ultimate message was one of hope for greater intercultural connection, and a strengthened sense of purpose and resolve for the New Zealand Sister City mission.

In his opening speech, Palmerston North Mayor Grant Smith quoted President Dwight D Eisenhower, who started the international Sister City movement in 1956:

“I have long believed, as have many before me, that peaceful relations between nations requires understanding and mutual respect between individuals. If only people will get together, then so eventually will nations.”

Mayor Smith continued, noting the applicability to modern day Sister City efforts, “I believe President Eisenhower’s call for citizen diplomacy is just as applicable today in a world deeply divided on many global issues. Local government and community groups can support this by being globally-oriented and welcoming communities.”

The 2019 SCNZ conference fittingly concluded with the Palmerston North Festival of Cultures in the city square – a major annual event which celebrates the cultural diversity of Palmerston North and New Zealand. This year’s opening ceremony included performances from both of Palmerston North’s visiting Sister Cities, Missoula (USA) and Mihara (Japan).
NZIER report launch - From Sister to Global Cities: The Economics of New Zealand's Sister Cities

By Toni Grace, SCNZ Director

The 2019 SCNZ conference discussion was framed by the launch of a revised report in to the economics of New Zealand’s Sister Cities, presented by the Chief Executive of the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER).

NZIER is a specialist consulting firm that uses applied economic research and analysis to provide a wide range of strategic advice to clients in the public and private sectors throughout New Zealand and Australia and further afield.

The report “From Sister to Global Cities: The economics of New Zealand Sister Cities” built on an earlier 2003 analysis produced by NZIER on the economic benefits of Sister Cities. Sixteen years on, the revised report was recommissioned to follow-up on how things have changed, and explore what have been the learnings from successful attempts by some Sister Cities to commercialise their relationships.

The new NZIER report also wrapped an economic framework around Sister City relationships, explaining their function and drivers of success. It also explored what areas or bottlenecks need to be addressed for Sister City relationships to become platforms for economic growth.

The revised report found that Sister City relationships produce two types of trust-generating economic outputs:

- Bilateral cultural-enhancing activity between city communities that creates and enhances community trust.
- Trust and assurance between cities that reduce transaction cost at the international level.

Sister Cities create a high-trust environment between local governments across border that can open economic opportunities for business and lowers risk, cost and uncertainty for business seeking to engage in bilateral trade.

Report author, James Hogan, was very happy with how the report turned out. “I’m hoping now that there’s an economic theory behind how Sister Cities grow, it can shape their strategic evolution.”

The revised report was made possible by the generous support of Local Government New Zealand (LG NZ) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) in conjunction with the SCNZ Board. Thanks to all those involved in the report funding, research and production.

The full NZIER report and executive summary can be found on the SCNZ & NZIER websites.

Palmerston North formalises City Partnership with Mihara, Japan

By Toni Grace, Palmerston North City Council

A special moment at the 2019 SCNZ conference saw the formalisation of the city partnership between Palmerston North and Mihara City, located Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan.

The relationship between Palmerston North and Mihara has a grassroots origin, and has included community triathlon participation, cultural exchange and school visits over many years.

Since 2014, SCNZ has been a facilitator to assist in formalising this new relationship.

The first official Mayoral visit from Mihara to Palmerston North took place in 2016, and since then the two cities have worked together formally to establish practical cooperation with community benefits. This has included the exchange of emergency management experts between the cities, and the establishment of education partnerships with Palmerston North's IPU campus.

To mark the occasion, the Mihara delegation gifted Palmerston North's Te Manawa Museum with a framed landscape drawing and a replica Samurai armour to be on permanent loan to the museum.

The Mihara delegation spent a week in Palmerston North including attendance at the SCNZ conference, as well as civil defence meetings, tertiary education visits and a Skype between a Palmerston North Intermediate School and Sagüura Elementary School in Mihara.

A delegation from Palmerston North's American Sister City, Missoula, Montana, was also in Palmerston North for the week. Both delegations were welcomed onto Te Rangimarie Marae by Rangihäne Iwi, including a hangi meal, cultural performances and an overnight stay.

Left: Palmerston North Mayor Grant Smith and Mihara Mayor Yoshinori Terma hold up the signed agreement

Right: Japanese Ambassador H.E. Hiroyasu Kobayashi stands with the Mayors beside the replica Samurai armour, which is now on permanent loan to Te Manawa Museum
People

Palmerston North Sister Cities Visit

Palmerston North recently hosted the national Sister Cities Conference. This event saw many councils of New Zealand discuss and receive presentations on the benefits and programmes of sister city mutual relationships.

Palmerston North has sister cities located in Mihara, Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan and Missoula, Montana, USA. With visiting delegations from these countries and cities arriving in New Zealand and hosted by the Mayor and Council of Palmerston North City, the opportunity to visit the Palmerston North fire station was offered.

SSO Tony Sealley and the Brown Watch staff at Palmerston North Fire Station provided a varied program for the visit to the fire station. An introductory PowerPoint presentation by Area Commander Mitchell Brown, led to a walk around visit to the USAR base and a review of a range of Fire and Emergency New Zealand fire appliances and specialist vehicles in the rear yard. The day culminating in the representative of the Missoula City and Mayor of Mihara taking the trip to the top of the Type 4 Bronto aerial appliance.

Page 11 of 37
Manawatu Newsletter
Indigenous Collaboration Mural
Painted During 2019 SCNZ Conference

By Toni Grace, Palmerston North City Council

Missoula and Palmerston North are both recognised nationally for their vibrant arts and creative scenes, so the recent Sister City visit provided the perfect opportunity to create a lasting public art collaboration.

In March 2019, artist Willow Kipp—a member of the Blackfeet and Shoshone–Bannock Nation Tribes indigenous Montana—worked with local artists to create a street mural as an addition to Palmerston North’s public art collection.

Mātauranga Māori and Te Tia Māori experts from Rangitāne, The Massey University School of Māori Visual Arts, Distinction Hotel Palmerston North & Nosh Restaurant, LOOP New Zealand, and established local artists Israel Tangaroa Birch and Gemma Yiannoutsos worked with Willow in creating the cultural art piece.

Willow travelled to Palmerston North as part of the 14-strong Missoula Sister City delegation, which attended the 2019 Sister Cities NZ Conference. The vibrant mural adorns the side of the Distinction Hotel, which was accommodating many of the SCNZ conference delegates at the time.

The mural, called "Horse Coup", tells the historic story about a group of horses which her tribe took from neighbouring tribes. While in Palmerston North, Willow and her mother Michelle also performed traditional Native American dances for the Festival of Cultures and the SCNZ Awards dinner.

The visit also furthered the connection between Massey University and the University of Montana, who are progressing talks on an MOU which could lead to student and staff mobility and a combined indigenous qualification.

The delegation, which included members of the University of Montana Native American Studies Department, were hosted by Massey University’s School of Māori Knowledge (Te Pūtahi-a-Tōi) for three days, as well as staying overnight at Te Rangimarie Marae in Rangitāne, hosted by Rangitāne iwi.
Palmerston North Hosts Friendship City in China-New Zealand Year of Tourism

By Toni Grace, Palmerston North City Council

Palmerston North embraced New Zealand’s ‘Year of Tourism’ with China, hosting their friendship city of Kunshan on the 25th anniversary of the relationship.

Officials from the eastern Chinese city spent the day in Palmerston North on 30 May to discuss culture, health and tourism cooperation.

The visitors had a full itinerary, which included meetings with local health agencies, tourism operators, a visit to Massey University and Te Manawa Museum of Art, Science and History.

The day was rounded out with a celebratory dinner for the China-New Zealand Year of Tourism where both cities shared presentations and videos about their tourism offerings.

The festivities were attended by Palmerston North Mayor Grant Smith, Councillor Adrian Broad, and Linda Stewart, CEO - Central Economic Development Agency, as well as representatives from Rangitāne iwi, local tourism agencies and members of the extended Manawatū Chinese community.

While this year holds national significance, Palmerston North has been flying the flag in China for decades. The city has two longstanding Chinese relationships, Guiyang since 1992 and Kunshan since 1994.

In 2017, Mayor Smith travelled to China to reconnect with Kunshan, before an education delegation visited in 2018.

“Two decades into our relationship we’re seeing great outcomes for both cities,” said Mayor Smith.

“We have many shared interests, leading to great opportunities, particularly across our education and tourism sectors.”

In recognition of the friendship city relationship, students from Palmerston North were given the opportunity to apply for four-year undergraduate scholarships to attend Duke Kunshan University, worth over NZ$300,000.

The 2018 recipient, Krista McIarrow-Keller has completed her first year at the International Chinese-American University and currently represents Palmerston North as the official Youth Ambassador to Kunshan.

Members of the Kunshan delegation included the Vice Chairman of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference of Kunshan, the Deputy Director of the Kunshan Culture, Sports, Radio, Television, and Tourism Bureau; the Deputy Director of the Kunshan Health Commission; the Deputy Director of the R&D Centre of the Kunshan Municipal People’s Government; the Director of the Kunshan International Relations Centre.

Top: PNCC City Councillor Adrian Broad hosts the Kunshan delegation at Enable NZ to discuss mutual interests in community health management and support.

Bottom: The Kunshan delegation presents a scroll gift to Mayor Grant Smith at the China New Zealand Year of Tourism dinner.
Palmerston North Deputy Mayor Visits Sister City Guiyang

By Toni Grace, Palmerston North City Council

Palmerston North Deputy Mayor Tangi Utikere travelled to Chinese Sister City Guiyang to join an education delegation from Manawatū and to attend the 2019 China International Big Data Expo.

The delegation includes representatives from the New Zealand Consulate (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade), Central Economic Development Agency, Massey University, IPU New Zealand, St Peter's College, Awatapu College, Palmerston North Boys High School, Palmerston North Girls High School, and Freyberg High School.

Back in 2017 Palmerston North Mayor Grant Smith headed a city business delegation to Guiyang as part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, which included signing an international education letter of intent.

“The letter of intent has created a valuable platform for Palmerston North education providers to travel to Guiyang, meet with the Education Bureau, visit prospective partner schools, and form relationships with education recruitment agencies,” says Deputy Mayor Utikere.

Guiyang is a picturesque city in Guizhou province. In recent years it’s blossomed into a mecca of ingenuity, playing host to some of the world’s foremost tech agencies. Think Microsoft, Apple, and Alibaba.

Before the education delegation visit, the Deputy Mayor attended the 2019 China International Big Data Expo (26 to 29 May), along with Stephen Wong, New Zealand Consul General responsible for Southwest China (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade) and Dr Sunil Lal, a lecturer in Computer Science at Massey University’s Manawatū campus.

“The China International Big Data Expo is one of the highest-profile national events held in Guiyang, a city that is fast becoming a leading hub for big data in China,” says the Deputy Mayor.

During his visit, Deputy Mayor Utikere met his counterpart in Guiyang, Vice Mayor Sun Zhiming, and the Guiyang Education Bureau.

Palmerston North’s international relations efforts won national recognition taking out the “best commercially focused project” at the 2018 Sister Cities New Zealand Awards. The prize included an Air New Zealand Travel voucher which enabled the Deputy Mayor’s recent trip to China.

The Deputy Mayors of Palmerston North and Guiyang meet in the margins of the Big Data Expo
Deputy Mayor in China to talk education and ‘big data’

Monday May 27 2019

This year marks the 27th anniversary for sister cities Palmerston North and Guiyang, in southwest China.

Palmerston North’s presence at the China International Big Data Expo may open doors for the city’s priority sectors, including distribution, logistics, and agritech.

Palmerston North Deputy Mayor Tangi Utikere is travelling to China at Guiyang’s invitation. He will join an education delegation from Manawatū and attend the 2019 China International Big Data Expo.

The delegation includes representatives from the New Zealand Consulate (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade), Central Economic Development Agency, Massey University, IPU New Zealand, St Peter’s College, Awatapu College, Palmerston North Boys’ High School, Palmerston North Girls’ High School, and Freyberg High School.

Back in 2017 Palmerston North Mayor Grant Smith headed a city business delegation to Guiyang as part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, which included signing an international education letter of intent.

Deputy Mayor in China to talk education and ‘big data’

*The letter of intent has created a valuable platform for Palmerston North education providers to travel to Guiyang, meet with the Education Bureau, visit prospective partner schools, and form relationships with education recruitment agencies,* says Deputy Mayor Utikere.

*The 2019 education visit will also include a Palmerston North education information event for prospective international students and their parents.*

Guiyang is a picturesque city in Guizhou province. In recent years it's blossomed into a mecca of ingenuity, playing host to some of the world's foremost tech agencies. Think Microsoft, Hyundai, and Alibaba.

Before the education delegation visit, the Deputy Mayor will attend the 2019 China International Big Data Expo (26 to 29 May), along with Stephen Wong, New Zealand Consul General responsible for Southwest China (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade) and Dr Sunil Lal, a lecturer in Computer Science at Massey University’s Manawatū campus.

*The China International Big Data Expo is one of the highest-profile national events held in Guiyang, a city that is fast becoming a leading hub for big data in China,* says the Deputy Mayor.

*Palmerston North’s presence at the event may open potential cooperation opportunities for our own priority sectors, including distribution, logistics, and agritech.*

During his visit, Deputy Mayor Utikere will also meet his counterpart in Guiyang, Vice Mayor Sun Zhiming, and the Guiyang Education Bureau.

Palmerston North’s international relations efforts won national recognition in 2018, taking out the “best commercially focused project” at the 2018 Sister Cities New Zealand Awards. The prize included an Air New Zealand Travel voucher which has enabled the Deputy Mayor’s current trip to China.
Stills from the Guiyang TV news coverage of the Palmerton North education information event – 2 June 2019

Photos from Tencent WeChat news item on Palmerton North education information event – 2 June 2019

新西兰北帕教育推广局贵阳行暨2019年暑期课程奖学金...
Guiyang Government press release (translated) – 1 June 2019

On the afternoon of May 31, the Deputy Mayor Tangi Utikere led a delegation of education representatives from Palmerston North, including the New Zealand Deputy Consul General in Chengdu and market manager of Education New Zealand. The delegation came to the Guiyang Municipal Education Bureau to hold a discussion and exchange with the relevant departments and schools.

Official Guiyang attendees included Guiyang Municipal People’s Government inspector Lu Ming, Guiyang City Friendship Association vice president Liu Song, director of the Municipal Education Bureau, Zhang Cheng, and representatives from Guiyang College, Guiyang Vocational and Technical College, Guiyang Nursing Vocational College, Guiyang Children’s College.

At the symposium, Lu Ming reviewed the cooperation in education between the two places. He introduced that this year is the 27th anniversary of the establishment of a sister city between Palmerston North and Guiyang. In 2017, Palmerston North and Guiyang signed the "Letter of Intent on Education, Professional Research, Expert Consultation and Vocational Training", and have continued to cooperate in depth. The friendly relations between the two sides have been continuously improved, laying a good foundation for cooperation and mutual visits in the field of education.

During the exchange, the education delegations of Palmerston North City and Guiyang City conducted in-depth discussions on the school development and cooperation models of both sides and expressed a common vision of continuing to deepen cooperation. In the future, this will extend to education and teaching research, vocational training, as well as many new directions in aspects such as studying abroad. This year, Guiyang College and Guiyang Nursing Vocational College will also conduct an exchange visit to Palmerston North City to determine the details of the cooperation.

It is understood that Palmerston North, referred to as “Palmy”, is the seventh largest provincial city in New Zealand. In 1992, Guiyang City and Palmerston North officially signed a sister-city relationship agreement. In the past 27 years, with the joint efforts of both sides, the two places have carried out pragmatic cooperation in characteristic agriculture, modern animal husbandry, agriculture-related technical training and cultural education, and achieved good economic and social benefits.
新西兰北帕市教育代表团与贵阳市教育局交流座谈会举行

贵阳教育 5/31

5月31日下午，新西兰北帕市议会副市长坦吉•乌蒂克雷带领包括新西兰驻成都副总领事伯桑德、新西兰教育国际推广局高级教育主任叶方明等在内的北帕市教育代表团一行来到贵阳市教育局，与我市教育局相关处室和学校开展座谈交流。

贵阳市人民政府正县级督学陆明，贵阳市友协专职副会长刘松，市教育局职成教处处长张祥，以及贵阳学院、贵阳职业技术学院、贵阳护理职业学院、贵阳幼儿高等专科学校相关负责人出席本次活动。

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/gRFXPsI7PRFMQhk4Ou4TZQ

23/07/2019
座谈会上，陆明对两地在教育方面的合作情况进行了回顾。他介绍到，今年是新西兰北帕和贵阳建立友好城市的27周年，2017年北帕市与贵阳市签署了《关于普通教育、专业研究、专家咨询及职业培训合作意向书》，并不断进行深入合作，双方的教育同仁友好关系不断增进，为在教育领域的合作、互访奠定良好基础。

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/gRFxP5lTPRQhK4oU4TZQ

23/07/2019
交流中，北帕市教育代表团及贵阳市座谈院校对双方的学校发展、合作模式等进行了深入探讨，表达了继续深化合作的美好愿景，对今后两地在教育教学研究、职业培训、出国留学咨询等多方面有了新的方向。今年，贵阳学院、贵阳护理职业学院也将到北帕市进行交流访问，确定合作详细事宜。

据了解，北帕默斯顿，简称“北帕”，是新西兰第七大省级城市。1992年贵阳市与北帕默斯顿市正式签署友好城市关系协议，27年来，在双方共同努力下，两地在特色农业、现

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/gRFXPsTcPRFMQh4Ou4TZQ

23/07/2019
Krista’s One Year Report

Hello!

It’s me, reporting in from a year or so living in China and at Duke Kunshan University. All round, it’s been a year of discovery of myself, of academics and of this incredibly and beautifully complex place. Once during the year I managed to meet up with some of Palmerston North’s counterparts in the Kunshan city government! Camille and her colleague came to visit and gave me some great advice on where to go in Kunshan. I’ll try to keep it short, the three things I’ll focus on are academics, myself and the extra things I’ve been up to, and lastly travel!

First of all, the boring stuff. Or in my case the challenging, sometimes boring, but usually worth it stuff! The first thing I noticed when I started studying at DKU, is that I have never worked so hard on academics in my life. It might just be the academic climate of China and it’s Gaokao orientated system, but those hour long Chinese classes every day were demanding. Every morning, at 10am, we would have a mini test. First it started out with remembering characters, alternating with reciting an entire new dialogue you were introduced to the day before. Quickly, we were memorising entire sentences in characters and whole pages of Mandarin dialogues in one night to present orally the next morning. It was worth it though. We learnt to keep up with the pace. Now we’re writing essays in Chinese, delivering mini speeches, and most importantly of all, I can successfully order vegetarian food in a restaurant.

Other than Chinese, I’ve taken courses in Global Health, Ethics and Justice, Environmental Ethics, Intro to Social Science and Statistics. The professors have all in their own way inspired me, and I’ve managed to perform reasonably well in their classes. In the Fall Semester, I was named on the Dean’s list! Alongside reaching out to individual professors for feedback, each student has a dedicated advisor which we meet with relatively frequently to talk about our classes and career paths. There’s a lot of support for our academic progress.

Outside of classes, I’ve been involved in quite a few things. Alongside taking part in various cultural experiences, such as tea tastings, bamboo carving and calligraphy practicing, I’ve also been involved in programs for leadership and of course, clubs! Over about six months myself and my team took part in various workshops to design a project we’d undertake in the Student Leadership Development Program. We ended up helping to run the very first Water Towns Environmental Film Festival near the end of the academic year, to considerable success! After this, my main involvement has been in running the club I’m president of, The Jester. The Jester is an arts, opinion and literary magazine, and we managed to get our first issue published before the end of last year. I’ve thoroughly enjoyed working to get that magazine published – there’s so many talented people at DKU that I’ve been able to work with because of it, from the people who wrote, the staff members who have international writing and editing experience who advised, to the designers and artists as who made it look incredible! It took basically eight months to put together, but I reckon we’ll just get faster and faster as the club streamlines the process. By managing to publish, we were also one of the more successful clubs on campus – neither the school newspaper club or the editorial club (that is rumoured but not confirmed to exist) managed to get anything out...

Being involved in the school in this way also brings an array of benefits – I’ve been able to meet extraordinary people over the course of this year. The editor of a large Beijing based literary magazine called Spitting when he visited campus gave me advice on poetry, I took part in the meeting of the Advisory Board members and was somewhat awed to find myself in a room of the most successful people I think I’ve ever met, including the the Provost of Duke, ex-head of General
Motors and an esteemed law professor who helped set up the Shenzhen stock exchange, and of course met various internationally acclaimed experts that professors have brought in for seminars. It’s been wild!

However, one of the things I’ve enjoyed the most perhaps is the opportunity to travel around China. I’ve been making the most of it! Every holiday or long weekend we’ve had I’ve managed to travel to a new amazing place. Even now, when I’m writing this report, I’m sitting in a room in the middle of the stunning rural areas of Zhejiang province at the village where some of my friend’s family lives! On the first Autumn Festival, I stayed with a friend in Suzhou and we visited the ancient gardens there and watched water shows. Over the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year) I travelled with another friend first to Beijing then to rural Henan province in a town called Luoyang, where I visited Paleolithic sites and found pieces of 5000 year old pottery lying in the plum orchards surrounding the museum site. I’ve visited mountainous areas in Linan, seen the Terracotta warriors in Xi’an, sites of cultural significance in Nanjing, the Longmen Grottoes in Henan and also to the famous Yellow Mountain in Anhui Province. The thing I honestly love most in China is going to rural areas that trips like these allow me to see. Out of the cities, you see traditional Chinese culture at its finest, because it’s not at all catering for international show, but is just existing as it always has. Also, the best parts of Chinese hospitality are present in incredible (even for a vegetarian) food!

It has most definitely been a year of self discovery, and although the challenges of adjusting alongside the growing pains of a new university can be difficult at times, I’m sure as you can see the blessings of coming to China have been plentiful. I promised to keep it short, and so I will end here. I hope you can enjoy the photos I’ll paste in!

All the best,

再见!
COMMITTEE WORK SCHEDULE

TO: Economic Development Committee
MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019
TITLE: Committee Work Schedule

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE


ATTACHMENTS

1. Work Schedule 📄
## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### COMMITTEE WORK SCHEDULE – AUGUST 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Estimated Report Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Officer Responsible</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>Date of Instruction/ Point of Origin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>