

Memo

8 April 2019

To: The Mayor, Councillors, Independent Maori Statutory Board Members, Executive Leadership Team

Cc: Marguerite Delbet, GM – Democracy Services

From: International Relations Unit

Subject: International Engagement Activity Update – April 2019

Summary

This memo outlines the International Relations Unit (IR) and Auckland Council's international engagement activity in April 2019. It also notes the activity outcomes in March 2019.

Action: For information

Date	Key Activity – April 2019	Location
1-30 April	Progress Tripartite 2019 preparation (in collaboration with ATEED) and arrangements for the celebration of the 30 th anniversary of the Auckland-Guangzhou partner city relationship	Auckland
3 April	Attendance of Vai opening premiere	Auckland
8-10 April	Visit by Guangzhou Working Group in advance of Tripartite and 30th anniversary celebrations 19-21 May	Auckland
23-25 April	Visit by Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee	Auckland

Auckland-hosted Tripartite 2019: Planning for the event is well underway, timed to coincide with Techweek19, the largest tech-focused event in New Zealand. Auckland will welcome delegations from our Tripartite Economic Alliance partner cities Los Angeles and Guangzhou from May 19-21.

Registrations stand at 154 (at 29 March), with Guangzhou expecting more than 60 representatives and Los Angeles expecting 25. There will be a focus on creative story-telling, wellbeing and public innovation, health tech, Auckland's screen sector and enabling entrepreneurship, as well as Whāriki Māori Business Network event planned in conjunction with Māori TV focusing on screen/creative.

Key Activity - March 2019

The following is a list of key global activity facilitated by IR and outcomes achieved:

Date	Activity	Location	Outcome
1 March	2020 50 th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between New Zealand and Tonga	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial exchange between the NZ High Commission to Tonga and the International Relations team
3 March	Elected members and IR attendance at Japan Day 2019 in Eden Park	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mayor delivered a speech; Deputy Mayor and Councillor Young also attended Demonstrated council support for multiculturalism and diversity
4 March	Auckland MFAT Pacific Reset and PacerPlus	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on implementation of the Pacific Reset and ratification of PacerPlus

6 March	Visit by Wellington International Relations team	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice exchange on strategic approach of international relations development at city-to-city level
7 March	Asia Pacific Children's Convention (APCC) Orientation Session	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided cultural training to Glen Eden Intermediate School for their APCC participation in Japan this July
11 March	IR met with Trevor Matheson, High Commissioner-designate to Samoa	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefed designate on the Auckland-Samoa relationship • Agreed to explore other opportunities to collaborate particularly under business and culture and through the PacificTA facility
15 March	New Director General Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Auckland called on Mayor Goff	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory courtesy call
15 March	International response to the Christchurch tragedy	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Goff and IR responded to messages of sympathy from Auckland partner cities Brisbane, Busan, Los Angeles and Utsunomiya • Brisbane Lord Mayor Quirk ordered the white lighting of three central city bridges and City Hall
17-19 March	Deputy Mayor Cashmore attending the Infrastructure NZ delegation to China, Singapore and Hong Kong	China, Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similarities and vast cultural differences exist between NZ and Asian cities • Promote future planning opportunities around urban design/transport networks to Aucklanders
29-31 March	Visit by Assistant Mayor of Busan Metropolitan City	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtesy Call on Councillors Hulse and Young • Best practice sharing on common interests in film, ports automation, start-ups, renewable energy and tourism promotion
30 March	IR attendance at the welcome reception for China's Minister of Culture and Tourism LUO Shugang hosted by Consul General XU Erwen	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met the new Cultural Consul and discussed progress of the China Cultural Centre, and engaged with key stakeholders associated with the China-NZ Year of Tourism
30 March	IR attendance at the China-New Zealand Year of Tourism Opening Ceremony	Wellington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated Auckland's support for the national initiative • Received updates from major tourism operators from China and NZ
30 March	2019 Korean Day Festival	Auckland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor and Councillors Darby, Walker and Young attended • Demonstrated council support for multiculturalism and diversity

Next steps

- The International Relations unit will provide an update on key international activity each month.
- Enquiries about the information listed above or requests for additional information or support from the team can be directed to Kimberley Wu, International Relations Manager; (kimberley.wu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz Mobile: 021 225 4035).