



MINUTES

**International Relations Advisory
Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, 16 August 2023

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON WEDNESDAY, 16 AUGUST 2023 AT 11:00 AM**

PRESENT:

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy proxy Emma Struys

Department of Foreign Affairs Donald Mortimore

Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade, General Manager Louis Da Rocha

Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden

Charles Darwin University Vice-President Global and External Relations Shannon Holborn proxy
Marissa Briston

OFFICERS:

Cherry Cai (Manager of Economic Development and International Relations)

APOLOGY:

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett

Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone

Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland

Charles Darwin University, Vice-President Global and External Shannon Holborn

GUESTS:

Nil

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1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11:00 am.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett

Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone

Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland

Charles Darwin University, Vice-President Global and External Shannon Holborn

3.2 Leave of Absence

Nil

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Charles Darwin University Vice-President Global and External Relations Shannon Holborn
proxy Marissa Briston

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members

Nil

5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC015/23**

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan
Seconded: Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

That the minutes of the International Relations Advisory Committee held on 31 May 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 8/0**7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS**9.1 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS QUARTERLY UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC016/23**

Moved: Department of Foreign Affairs Donald Mortimore
Seconded: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

1. THAT the report entitled International Relation Quarterly Update be received and noted.
2. THAT the International Relation Advisory Committee recommends the City of Darwin provide the Quarterly International Relations Update to the sister/friendship cities.
3. THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee members will contribute the content quarterly to be part of the update.

CARRIED 8/0**9.2 PROJECT CLOSURE REPORT - DARWIN INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL 2023****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC017/23**

Moved: Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade, General Manager Louis Da Rocha
Seconded: Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden

Council Officers plan to recommend the following at a subsequent Council meeting:

1. THAT the report entitled Project Closure Report – Darwin International Dragon Boat Festival 2023 be received and noted.

CARRIED 8/0

9.3 SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP PROPOSAL WITH TIWI ISLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC018/23

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Seconded: Department of Foreign Affairs Donald Mortimore

1. THAT the report entitled Sister City Relationship Proposal with Tiwi Islands Regional Council be received and noted.
2. THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee recommends City of Darwin to renew the Sister City Agreement with the Tiwi Islands Regional Council under the existing Sister City Agreement framework with Milikapiti.

CARRIED 8/0

10 MEMBER REPORTS

10.1 GUANGZHOU MANDARIN LEARNING PROGRAM

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC019/23

Moved: Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

Seconded: Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade, General Manager Louis Da Rocha

THAT the report entitled Guangzhou Mandarin Learning Program be received and noted.

CARRIED 8/0

10.2 DISCOVER DARWIN WEBSITE UPDATE

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC020/23

Moved: Department of Foreign Affairs Donald Mortimore

Seconded: Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden

THAT the report entitled Discover Darwin Website Update be received and noted.

CARRIED 8/0

10.3 MEMBERS VERBAL UPDATES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC021/23

Moved: Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden

Seconded: Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

THAT the report entitled Members Verbal Updates be received and noted.

- Department of Foreign Affairs Donald Mortimore:
 - Foreign relations or normalisation of relations with China for a positive outcome,
 - launch of the new International Development Policy with an investment of 3 million and focusing on localisation and hiring of local businesses,
 - a visit to Darwin by the Swiss Ambassador to Australia to establish her role and incorporate decisions in foreign policy, and
 - First Nations Ambassador has been appointed to represent the First Nations based in Australia to connect with the rest of the world. The Ambassador will lead the process of embedding Indigenous perspectives, experiences, and interests across the work of the Department of Foreign Affairs Trade, including the development of a First Nations Foreign Policy.
- Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden:
 - the tourism industry is interested in airport runway updates,
 - update provided on the newly appointed General Manager for Tourism Top End, Sam Bennett who has extensive tourism experience and skills, and
 - a further update will be provided on the Board representative from Tourism Top End in the International Relations Advisory Committee
- Department of Tourism, Industry, and Trade, General Manager Louis Da Rocha:
 - International Delegations scheduled to happen:
 - Delegation to Timor Leste to reinforce and finalise the agreement in September
 - Delegation to India in October
 - Delegation to Indonesia in November
 - an EU representative was interested in visiting Darwin
- Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah:
 - A new strategy plan was completed last year that included a Larrakia Tourism Plan. The plan would focus on ensuring the sustainable implementation of tourism priorities to support the Larrakia people
- Charles Darwin University Vice-President Global and External Relations Shannon Holborn proxy Marissa Briston:
 - Increased Ambassador visits,
 - a visit from the Ambon universities delegation about collaboration in the education area, and
 - Charles Darwin University is looking at potential partnership options with Switzerland.

CARRIED 8/0

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

MOTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC022/23

Moved: Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden

Seconded: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

That City of Darwin staff to add a Confidential Session after the General Business for future meetings.

CARRIED 8/0

12 NEXT MEETING

11:00 am, 29 November 2023

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:30 am.