



MINUTES

**International Relations Advisory
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 19 January 2022**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY CHAN AVENUE,
DARWIN
ON WEDNESDAY, 19 JANUARY 2022 AT 10:40AM – 11.25PM**

PRESENT: Lord Mayor of City of Darwin The Hon. Kon Vatskalis, Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris, CEO of Darwin International Airport Tony Edmondstone, CEO of Darwin Port Darren Lambourn, GM of Darwin Convention Centre Peter Savoff, Chairman of Darwin Waterfront Board Richard Fejo, Sister City Chair Vida Goodvach, Top End Tourism Board member Ms Sam Bennet, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, NT Office Sandra Henderson, Acting General Manager Innovation Dr Alice Percy

OFFICERS: Ms Cherry Cai

APOLOGY: Austrade Stephanie Smith, Migration NT Pompea Sweet

GUESTS: Nil

Order Of Business

1	Meeting Declared Open	4
2	Acknowledgement of Country	4
3	Apologies & Leave Of Absence	4
4	Electronic Attendance	4
5	Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff	4
6	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	5
7	Actions Arising from Previous Minutes	5
8	Presentations	5
9	Officer Reports.....	5
9.1	2022 Darwin Dragon Boat Festival	5
9.2	Membership Update	5
9.3	Congrats Letter from International Relations Advisory Committee	6
10	Member Reports	6
10.1	Seven Seasons, Seven Senses Incubator Program	6
10.2	Darwin International Virtual Trade Show 2022 update	6
10.3	International Bid Champion Grant Program	7
11	General Business.....	7
11.1	Verbal Updates	7
11.2	Verbal Updates – Out of Session item.....	8
12.3	2022 Darwin Dragon Boat Festival working group member appointment – Out of session	9

12 Next Meeting 9

13 Closure of Meeting..... 9

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.40 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

Austrade Stephanie Smith
Migration NT Pompea Sweet

3.2 Leave of Absence

Nil

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Lord Mayor The Hon. Kon Vatskalis
Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris
CEO of Darwin International Airport Tony Edmondstone
CEO of Darwin Port Darren Lambourn
GM of Darwin Convention Centre Peter Savoff
Chairman of Darwin Waterfront Board Richard Fejo
Sister City Chair Ms Vida Goodvach
Top End Tourism Board Ms Sam Bennet
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, NT Office Sandra Henderson
Acting General Manager Innovation Dr Alice Percy

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 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Chairman of Darwin Waterfront Richard Fejo

That the minutes of the International Relations Advisory Committee held on 27 October 2021 be confirmed.

CARRIED

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS**9.1 2022 DARWIN DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report be received and noted.

That the International Relations Advisory Committee appoints Ms Vida Goodvach to represent at the 2022 Dragon Boat Festival Working Group.

CARRIED

9.2 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Lord Mayor The Hon. Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

9.3 CONGRATS LETTER FROM INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Lord Mayor The Hon. Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris

That the report be received and noted.

That the Committee endorses to provide a congratulation letter to Stephanie Smith for having a baby.

CARRIED

10 MEMBER REPORTS**10.1 SEVEN SEASONS, SEVEN SENSES INCUBATOR PROGRAM****RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Lord Mayor The Hon. Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Seven Seasons, Seven Senses Incubator Program be received and noted.
2. THAT the Committee received the below comments:
 - Richard Fejo will follow up with Larrakia about the Incubator program;
 - Vida suggests putting this at the Darwin International Trade Show 2022 event;
 - Sandra will promote to Austrade and DFAT key markets;
 - Tony: will promote in the Airport Ad infrastructure.

CARRIED

10.2 DARWIN INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW 2022 UPDATE**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Ms Vida Goodvach

Seconded: Alderman Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Darwin International Virtual Trade Show 2022 be received and noted.
2. THAT Committee members are invited to participate in the event as keynote speakers and/or facilitators of a workshop, based on their skills, capacity and interest.
3. THAT the Committee members provide the below feedback/advice on the two-day event programs to City of Darwin to plan the event.

CARRIED**10.3 INTERNATIONAL BID CHAMPION GRANT PROGRAM****RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. THAT the report be received and noted.
2. THAT the Committee received the below comment:
 - Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade will support and promote this program.

CARRIED**11 GENERAL BUSINESS****11.1 VERBAL UPDATES****RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. THAT the Committee received the below verbal updates:

Airport CEO Tony

RAT is available in the airport for the passengers. 15,000 passengers through the international terminal. Assume 60%-80% of the pre-covid numbers in the dry season. Health screen rules need to change to create a better visitor experience.

Port CEO Darren

Increase in trade through the ports, particularly construction, cars, and agriculture. Update on international shipping and domestic and international routes handling fee.

DFAT Sandra

Request a meeting with LM for the new Ambassador to Timor-Leste in early Feb. Australia is providing an initial package of \$1m to meet urgent humanitarian requests from Tonga, including shelter, kitchen, and hygiene. Details will be sent via email after the meeting. DFAT supports the City of Darwin's Trade Show and 7 Senses 7 Seasons Incubator Program.

Sister City Chair Vida

Thanks to Lord Mayor and City of Darwin for donating two tipper trucks to the Tiwi Regional Council as part of the Sister City program; Sister City Advisory Committee is exploring the opportunity to sponsor dance groups at the Darwin Festival.

Acting GM of Innovation

Alice: Discover Darwin's website is underway and will be launched before June 2022.

Migration NT

- Interim NT Worker Attraction Campaign 2022
- NT International Engagement Strategy
- NT Business & Migration Strategy
- Increased hours for International students

- UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement
- Australian Agriculture Worker Visa

CARRIED

11.2 VERBAL UPDATES – OUT OF SESSION ITEM

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That the report be received and noted.
- THAT the Committee received the below updates from Migration NT Pompea Sweet via email on 19 January 2022 including:

Interim NT Worker Attraction Campaign 2022

- That campaign is scheduled to commence late January and will run for 6 weeks.
- Target Audience: Australia – NSW, VIC, SA and WA. International – London, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, Switzerland and NZ
- Platform: social media and Youtube

NT International Engagement Strategy

- Next step - Final strategy to progress to Cabinet consideration

NT Business & Migration Strategy

- Draft under development

Increased hours for International students

- Announced on 13 January 2022. Australian Government lifted the 40 hour per fortnight work limitation placed on student visas.
- International students and working holidaymakers (backpackers) can return to Australia for work and holidays –need to be double vaccinated with approved vaccines in accordance with Australian Government rules.

UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement

- Whilst FTA has been signed; still a way to go as implementation provisions of the agreement do not commence immediately.
- FTA still needs to be tabled and passed by both Houses of Federal Parliament.
- Once that has happened, the agreement will enter into force 30 days later.
- HOWEVER – some components of the FTA will still take time to operationalise. I.e Working Holiday Maker component – age limit increase to 35 years and 3 year stays in Australia will occur within 2 years of FTA coming into force.

Australian Agriculture Worker Visa

- Bilateral negotiations continue with countries to opt in.
- Migration NT is working with DFAT (Sandy Henderson) to bid for NT to be pilot jurisdiction with Indonesia.

12.3 2022 DARWIN DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL WORKING GROUP MEMBER APPOINTMENT – OUT OF SESSION**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report be received and noted.

That the International Relations Advisory Committee was called for the re-nomination of the representative to the Working Group via email on 21 January 2022.

Mr Peter Savoff was nominated to represent at the 2022 Dragon Boat Festival Working Group.

12 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held from 10.30-12.00 am Thursday 14 April 2022.

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.25 am.