



# **AGENDA**

## **International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, 29 November 2023**

**I hereby give notice that an International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on:**

**Date: Wednesday, 29 November 2023**

**Time: 11:00 AM**

**Location: Council Chambers Darrandirra  
Level 1, Civic Centre  
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**Webcasting:**

**Simone Saunders  
Chief Executive Officer**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis (Chair)

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland

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

City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy

Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone

Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

Department of Foreign Affairs Drew Boekel

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

Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett

Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Top End Tourism Board Member Alana Madden

Alternate Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

**OFFICERS**

Manager of Economic Development and International Relations, Cherry Cai

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**1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**

**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**3.1 Apologies**

**3.2 Leave of Absence**

**3.3 Leave of Absence Notified**

**4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE**

**4.1 Electronic Attendance**

**4.2 Electronic Attendance Notified**

**5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

International Relations Advisory Committee - 16 August 2023

**7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM Previous Minutes**

As per below reports

**8 PRESENTATIONS**

Overview of the Austrade services for NT Exporters by Daniel Hall, Territory Liaison Adviser, Austrade

## 9 OFFICER REPORTS

### 9.1 FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL FROM VYAS MUNICIPALITY, GANDAKI, NEPAL

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** 1. Proposal [↓](#)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Friendship City Proposal from Vyas Municipality, Gandaki, Nepal be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee to provide feedback on the Friendship City proposal from Vyas Municipality, Gandaki Nepal.

The purpose of this report is to seek feedback from the International Relations Advisory Committee on a proposal received by City of Darwin from Nyas Municipality, Gandaki, Nepal provided in **Attachment 1**. City of Darwin officers will consider the next steps around whether to conduct further research on the city and its proposal based on the feedback from the International Relations Advisory Committee.

#### BACKGROUND

City of Darwin received a proposal to initiate an international relationship between City of Darwin and Vyas Municipality on 2 October 2023. City of Darwin is yet to respond to them on this proposal.

As per City of Darwin International Relations and Sister City Policy, City of Darwin's International Relations efforts will aim to contribute to:

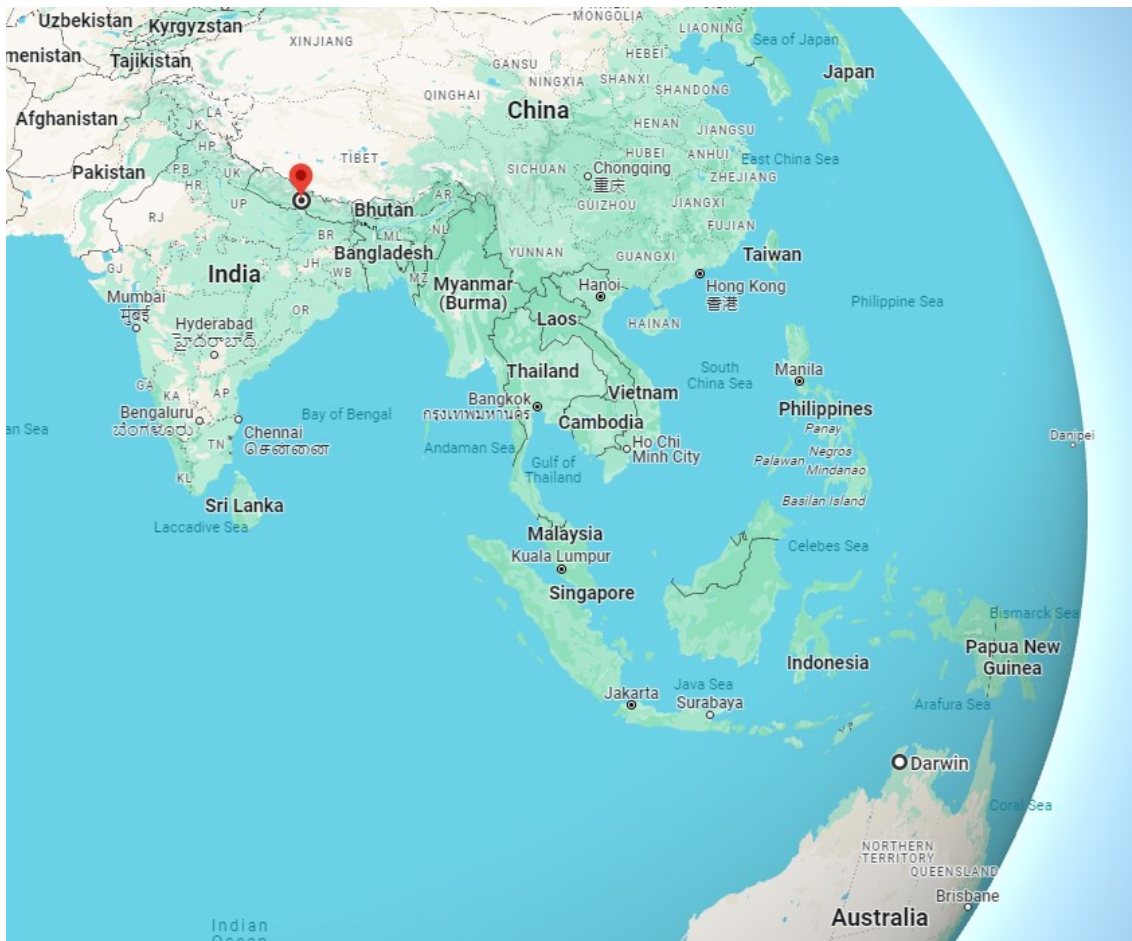
- Community and culture - people who visit and settle in Darwin support City of Darwin's vision for a creative, connected, and inclusive city
- Economy - access to markets, commercial opportunities, international students and tourists all contribute to Darwin's economic prosperity.

City of Darwin's international relationships may be formal or informal and may include:

- Strategic Partnerships, or
- Sister City Relationship

Before a Sister City relationship can commence, a city must have had a strategic partnership arrangement in place for a minimum period of two (2) years. A Council resolution is required for any exemptional case.

**Geographic Location Image**



**Nepalese Community in Darwin**

As per 2021 Census, Nepalese population in Darwin ranked the top 3 dominant community based on birthplace. The population increased by 156% from the 2016 Census.

Birthplace	Males		Females		% of OSB	Persons 2016	% Change 2016-2021
	2021	2016	2021	2016			
Philippines	1,366	1,965	3,331	12%	3365	-1%	
India	1,601	1,360	2,964	11%	2108	41%	
Nepal	1,250	1,057	2,305	8%	900	156%	
England	1,166	1,067	2,238	8%	2616	-14%	
New Zealand	703	643	1,347	5%	1600	-16%	
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	489	721	1,213	4%	955	27%	
Greece	560	447	1,009	4%	1123	-10%	
Indonesia	340	624	965	4%	743	30%	
Sri Lanka	460	435	894	3%	526	70%	
Timor-Leste	401	427	832	3%	851	-2%	
Vietnam	319	459	780	3%	473	65%	
Thailand	142	419	567	2%	533	6%	
Bangladesh	329	196	523	2%	277	89%	
Malaysia	228	277	505	2%	475	6%	
Pakistan	310	154	465	2%	240	94%	
Ireland	210	213	427	2%	704	-39%	
Germany	156	220	375	1%	444	-16%	
South Africa	194	175	371	1%	346	7%	
Taiwan	100	226	320	1%	415	-23%	
Italy	187	127	313	1%	318	-2%	
United States of America	145	152	295	1%	307	-4%	
Scotland	138	137	276	1%	341	-19%	
Papua New Guinea	96	150	245	1%	255	-4%	
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	113	127	239	1%	196	22%	
Singapore	81	124	206	1%	209	-1%	
Fiji	95	116	204	1%	162	26%	
Other Birthplaces	2,062	2,184	4,272	16%	4,474	-5%	
Total overseas born	13,241	14,202	27,481	100%	24,956	10%	





Dear Sir/Mam,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Bishal Pandit, and I represent Vyas Municipality, located in Gandaki, Nepal. I am writing to you today with a proposal to initiate an international relationship between our respective municipalities, with the aim of sharing and learning from each other's local experiences, both the positive aspects and challenges.

We believe that by fostering this partnership, we can achieve several mutually beneficial objectives:

1. **Cultural Exchange:** Our municipalities have unique cultural identities, and a cultural exchange program would allow us to celebrate and appreciate our differences. We can organize events, festivals, and exhibitions to showcase our traditions, art, and heritage.
2. **Knowledge Sharing:** Vyas Municipality and Darwin both have their strengths and weaknesses in various areas, including urban planning, environmental conservation, and public services. Through regular knowledge-sharing sessions, we can exchange ideas, strategies, and best practices to address common challenges more effectively.
3. **Economic Opportunities:** Exploring opportunities for trade, investment, and collaboration can stimulate economic growth in both of our regions. We can facilitate business partnerships and promote tourism to boost our local economies.
4. **Environmental Sustainability:** Given the global importance of environmental conservation, we can collaborate on sustainability initiatives, such as waste management, renewable energy projects, and biodiversity conservation, to make a positive impact on our surroundings.
5. **Educational and Academic Partnerships:** Our partnership can extend to educational and academic institutions, fostering student exchanges, joint research projects, and scholarships, which will enhance educational opportunities for our youth.
6. **Social and Community Initiatives:** By working together, we can develop and implement programs aimed at improving the well-being of our citizens, including health and social services, and addressing common social issues.

We believe that the exchange of experiences, ideas, and resources will not only benefit our respective communities but also contribute to a more interconnected and harmonious world.

To discuss this proposal further, we would appreciate the opportunity to schedule a virtual meeting at your convenience. Please let us know your availability, and we can arrange a time that works for both parties.

We look forward to the possibility of forging a strong international relationship between Vyas Municipality and Darwin. Together, we can create a brighter future for our communities and enhance our global connectivity.

Thank you for considering our proposal, and we eagerly await your response.

Warm regards,  
Bishal Pandit  
Head of Foreign Affairs/IT Officers  
Vyas Municipality, Nepal

**9.2 CITY OF JOETSU FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL UPDATE**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled City of Joetsu Friendship City Proposal Update be received and noted.  
THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee to provide feedback and comments on the information to be included in the meeting with the Mayor of Joetsu in March 2024.

**Background**

At the Ordinary Meeting on 16 November 2021, Council resolved to connect with the Mayor of Joetsu to commence negotiations on forming a Friendship City relationship with Joetsu, Japan.

**Darwin and Jōetsu, Japan**

City of Darwin and City of Jōetsu, Japan are currently in the process of exploring future exchanges and the opportunity to establish a friendship city relationship.

City of Darwin previously approached the Japanese Consulate and the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR Sydney) about forming a Friendship City relationship with a city in Japan. The city of Jōetsu 上越市 (Jōetsu-shi) has responded to this request. City of Darwin and Jōetsu are already linked through the Ichthys LNG Project, one of the most significant oil and gas projects in the world. The Naoetsu LNG Terminal in Jōetsu city is one of the destinations that receive the natural gas being exported from the onshore gas liquefaction plant in Darwin.

The Hon Kon Vatskalis met Mr Kanta Nakagawa, the Mayor of Jōetsu, Japan and his delegation during their visit to Darwin in August 2023. Both cities agreed to continue to work with each other to explore opportunities for cooperation.

Jōetsu is located in Niigata Prefecture, on the central western coast of the main, central island of Japan. During the delegation's stay in Darwin, Mayor Kanta Nakagawa visited the Darwin Cenotaph in respect and memory of the lives lost during the conflict of World War 2 and the War in the Asia Pacific region.

**City of Darwin's visit to Jōetsu, Japan**

General Manager Innovation, City of Darwin will pay a return visit to Jōetsu Japan and will have a meeting with the Mayor of Jōetsu and the team on 12 March 2024. The visit will focus on further discussing the proposed Friendship City relationship, areas for cooperation and information on Darwin in Jōetsu.

**9.3 SISTER CITY AGREEMENT UPDATE WITH TIWI ISLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Sister City Agreement Update with Tiwi Islands Regional Council be received and noted.

**BACKGROUND**

Council resolved on 27 April 2023 to allocate \$9,000 for a potential project in Milikapiti through the adoption of the Sister City Action Plan. This funding will continue to support the Milikapiti community of the Tiwi Islands.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the International Relations Advisory Committee on the Council resolution for the Sister City Relationship renewal proposal with Tiwi Islands Regional Council.

Council considered the proposal at the Ordinary Meeting on 31 October 2023 and endorsed for City of Darwin officers to work with Tiwi Islands Regional Council, to update the name contained on the Sister City Agreement to facilitate working with the Council to scope out and deliver the project funded through the Sister City Action Plan.

**NEXT STEPS**

City of Darwin officers will work with Tiwi Regional Council to renew the name reflected in the Sister City Agreement and discuss the potential program to be delivered under the Sister City Action Plan.

**9.4 DISCOVER DARWIN LINKEDIN MARKETING PLAN**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Discover Darwin LinkedIn Marketing Plan be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee members leverage Discover Darwin LinkedIn to connect to the businesses and community from our Sister and Friendship cities and promote Darwin to international markets by providing information focusing on live, study, work and invest in Darwin.

**BACKGROUND**

City of Darwin has recently developed a new Marketing Plan for the Discover Darwin LinkedIn account. Relative to this, support is requested from the International Relations Advisory Committee members to share and promote Darwin as a destination to live, study, work and invest in by leveraging this platform.

**What can you do to support?**

- Follow Discover Darwin page in LinkedIn.
- Share and like the page and post to your network.
- Connect with the Sister and Friendship Cities community and recommend following Discover Darwin to keep posted on any information about Darwin.
- Provide relevant information to City of Darwin to share in LinkedIn, if applicable.

**Discover Darwin Marketing Plan**

The Discover Darwin LinkedIn Marketing Plan (the Plan) aims to promote Darwin as a destination to live, invest, work, study, and do business for the international market through the LinkedIn social platform.

Through organic, owned content creation and strategic social media activities on the purpose-built Discover Darwin LinkedIn page, we will grow awareness and engagement with Darwin as a destination and a place to live, setting up the position over time to develop into an international focus.

The Plan will also leverage City of Darwin's Sister and Friendship Cities and LinkedIn network to achieve the communication objectives and promote Darwin as a global destination to live, invest, work, and study.

The biggest advantage of LinkedIn is that it is frequented by many senior-level influencers, decision-makers, and thought leaders which are in line with Discover Darwin's key target audiences who are business/organisation/family decision-makers and influencers to move, invest, travel, as well as study internationally.

**Marketing objectives**

The Discover Darwin LinkedIn Marketing Plan aims to:

- Attract followers to the Discover Darwin LinkedIn page
- attract followers to the Discover Darwin website
- strengthen brand reputation and build brand awareness
- engage with the target audience
- raise awareness of City of Darwin's international relations initiatives
- promote Darwin as a destination to live, invest, work, study, and do business in the international market
- promote Darwin to be recognised as a world leader for celebrating our unique, diverse, and shared multicultural heritage, and
- attract people and tourists and leaves a positive lasting impression that invigorates Darwin's economic growth.

**Key stakeholders/influencers**

- Council/Elected Members
- City of Darwin officers
- Northern Territory Government
- Top End Tourism
- Chamber of Commerce NT
- Industry Capability Network NT
- NT Indigenous Business Network
- NT Major Events
- Tourism NT
- Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade
- Hospitality NT
- Charles Darwin University
- Sister City Advisory Committee
- International Relations Advisory Committee
- City of Darwin 11 Sister/Friendship Cities' governments
- Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation
- Northern Territory Indigenous Business Network
- Industry leaders and executives
- Residents

**Target audiences**

- Potential investors, developers, visitors, and migrants from international markets
- Mayors of Sister and Friendship Cities' governments, Council representatives of Sister and Friendship Cities, international business partners, Consulate/Embassy of Sister/Friendship City countries, Sister/Friendship Cities' businesses, professionals, and organisations



**9.5 MAYOR'S FORUM TRAVEL UPDATE**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Mayor's Forum Travel Update be received and noted.

At the Ordinary Meeting on 14 November 2023, Council resolved to approve the Lord Mayor's travel to Guangzhou in December to attend the Global Mayors Forum.

The Lord Mayor has been invited by the Guangzhou Municipal Government, United Cities and Local Governments, the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the World Association for the Major Metropolises to attend the 2023 Global Mayors Forum held in Guangzhou from 7 – 9 December 2023.

The focus of the Global Mayors Forum is to promote innovation in global urban governance, the implementation of the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda and build a community of friendship. The Global Mayors Forum also includes an Award Ceremony for Urban Innovation.

The Lord Mayor's upcoming visit in December provides an opportunity to strengthen city relationships with Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Qingdao around the Lord Mayors attendance to the 2023 Global Mayors Forum.

City of Darwin is working with the Northern Territory Government and Darwin International Airport to plan meetings with key stakeholders in China and airlines to facilitate discussions around direct flights to Darwin on 11 and 12 December 2023.

The flight from Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport and Guangzhou Baiyun International to Darwin International Airport is 5.5 hours, making it the fastest direct flight route from mainland China to Australia.



**9.6 CITY OF DARWIN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS UPDATE**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** 1. City of Darwin November Update [↓](#)

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled City of Darwin International Relations Update be received and noted.

THAT International Relations Advisory Committee members to provide City of Darwin officers with any content considered to be appropriate for the next March/April update before 29 February 2024.

**BACKGROUND**

City of Darwin approved the recommendation from the International Relations Advisory Committee to provide Quarterly International Relations Update to the sister/friendship cities.

The International Relations Quarterly update aims to provide an opportunity for businesses and governments from our Sister and Friendship Cities to engage with City of Darwin and Darwin's businesses / organisations and to provide information relating to new opportunities that Darwin has to offer. The Quarterly update will target businesses, organisations and governments from existing and potential sister/friendship cities. Success of Darwin International Virtual Trade Show 2022, Darwin International Dragon Boat Festival 2023, and Darwin International Trade Show 2023, City of Darwin has received increased interest and inquiries from the community and Darwin's Sister and Friendship Cities on the opportunities available in Darwin. There are currently around 350 businesses, organisations and governments from Darwin's 11 Sister and Friendship Cities which have opted to receive the update.

**DISTRIBUTION**

The November Update was distributed on 18 November 2023. Please see the Update in **Attachment 1**.

**NEXT UPDATE**

The next update will be developed and distributed in March/April 2024. City of Darwin welcomes any content contribution from the Committee members. The content can be sent to City of Darwin International Relations office any time before 29 February 2024 via [international@darwin.nt.gov.au](mailto:international@darwin.nt.gov.au).

A regular update brought to you by City of Darwin.

# DISCOVER DARWIN



## **A message from the Hon Kon Vatskalis, Lord Mayor of City of Darwin**

Welcome to City of Darwin's International Relations update.

We are very proud of our beautiful city which is a great place to work, live, study and invest.

I am pleased to see ongoing and expanding cooperation between Darwin businesses and industries through our Sister and Friendship Cities program.

International relations are very important to us and I am delighted by the strong relationships we maintain with our Sister and Friendship Cities.

I would like to encourage you to reach out to [City of Darwin](#) directly, or to any of our local businesses and organisations, to explore partnership opportunities.

This International Relations update provides useful information on the study and work opportunities available in Darwin; stories of interest from the Sister and Friendship City Corporation; and key updates from the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and the City of Darwin.

We are keen for our international friends to visit Darwin and explore the opportunities our city

has to offer and we are committed to providing ongoing support and assistance to our Sister and Friendship Cities.

Darwin is the closest Australian capital city to Asia, providing the shortest transport routes for two-way trade between the Asian markets and Australia.

Darwin International Airport is one of the few airports in Australia that operates 24 hours a day and seven days a week. The deep-water Port of Darwin provides modern freight-handling facilities, a dedicated bulk liquids berth and links with an intermodal road-rail network.

This month I am excited to launch the City of Darwin Christmas Program, starting with the Christmas Pageant and Christmas Tree Lighting event on 18 November 2023 and continuing with magical events throughout November and December.

I look forward to welcoming you to Darwin and I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and happy New Year!

The Hon Kon Vatskalis JP  
Lord Mayor

## City of Darwin Update

City of Darwin's International Relations Program has received recognition by winning two awards for the delivery of projects for Darwin's Sister and Friendship Cities.

City of Darwin's 2022 Darwin International Virtual Trade Show has won a national award from Sister Cities Australia for the tourism and trade category. This innovative two-day online program brought together 107 businesses and organisations from Darwin and its Sister and Friendship Cities, attracting 1,000 attendees despite closed international borders. The Trade Show delivered 39 presentations with topics in education, tourism, international trade, businesses, and migration from Darwin and its Sister and Friendship Cities.

The recent Darwin International Dragon Boat Festival won the 2023 Chief Minister's NT Export Awards for "Excellence in events/international trade delegations supporting Northern Territory export activities and businesses" award. It was a huge collaboration with local and national stakeholders, special dignitaries, and 120 international delegations from across the world. The festival encompassed a number of key events, including the Dragon Boat Festival community event, Sister and Friendship City gala dinner, international trade show, and business networking events.

We would like to thank our Sister and Friendship Cities governments for participating in the events and our sponsors, volunteers, and key stakeholders involved who helped us deliver the event for their contribution to making the Northern Territory a great place to live, work, and visit.



### Darwin and Jōetsu in Japan

Darwin and Jōetsu in Japan are currently in the process of exploring future exchanges and the opportunity to establish a Friendship City relationship.

City of Darwin previously approached the Japanese Consulate and CLAIR Sydney about forming a Friendship City relationship with a city in Japan, and the city of Jōetsu 上越市 (Jōetsu-shi) responded to this request.

Jōetsu and Darwin already have an existing linkage through import of LNG to Jōetsu, and Darwin and Jōetsu are both testaments to grievous events that took place during World War II. This Friendship City relationship would be a symbol of peace between Darwin and Japan, which will result in economic opportunity for both Darwin and Jōetsu.

The Hon Kon Vatskalis met Mr. Kanta Nakagawa, the Mayor of Jōetsu, Japan and his delegation during their visit in August 2023. Both cities agreed to continue to work with each other to explore opportunities for cooperation.

Jōetsu is located in Niigata Prefecture, on the central western coast of the main, central island of Japan. During their stay in Darwin, Mayor Kanta Nakagawa visited the Darwin Cenotaph in respect and memory of the loves lost during the conflict of World War 2 and the War in the Asia Pacific region.



The Hon Kon Vatskalis and Mayor Kanta Nakagawa

## Sister and Friendship City Cooperation

City of Darwin established a new Sister City with Denpasar, Indonesia on 13 June 2022.

Since the Sister City relationship was established, the City of Darwin has hosted two delegations from Denpasar. The first delegation from KOPITU and another from IPB International, two education institutes in Bali, Indonesia. Both delegations were interested in exploring workforce, training, education and business opportunities in Darwin.

### GTNT and KOPITU

Last September, the [KOPITU](#) delegation met with [GTNT Group](#) and GTNT's in-house registered training organisation (RTO), the [Institute of Skills and Training Australia](#) (ISTA), and five other industry bodies and government agencies to discuss labour shortages and the opportunities to bring workers from our neighbours in Indonesia. Following this, ISTA, Northern Territory's largest not-for-profit provider of employment and training services, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), including KOPITU DPD Denpasar, [LPK Bali Sanitya Sejahtera](#) and [LPK Lumbung Deso](#) in late 2022.

Under the MOU Framework, GTNT has also commenced its efforts to deliver a [Bali Hospitality Training Program](#) in Bali. The first three Denpasar students arrived in Darwin and participated in the Darwin International Trade Show on 5 June 2023, where the international students gained valuable insights into Darwin's other Sister City relationships.

The three Denpasar students have been successfully employed and are working in Darwin's

hotel sectors straight after the two-week Bali Hospitality Training Program organised by GTNT/ISTA in Darwin.



Middle: Mr I.G.N. Jayanegara Se, Mayor of Denpasar, Ms Kathryn Stenson, CEO of GTNT with three Denpasar students Mr Agus Aditya, Ms Pita Dewi and Ms Putri Paramitha

### **IPB International**

"2023 Darwin International Trade Show connects us to more partners that support our efforts to send the students to Darwin. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to City of Darwin for the support." said by Ms Ayu Sulasmini Ni Made, the lead of the IPB International delegation.

Under the Sister City Agreement between Denpasar and Darwin, City of Darwin hosted a university delegation from our Sister City Denpasar, Indonesia in February and June 2023.

The Chair of the Foundation of IPB International, Dr. I Nyoman Gede Astina, along with fellow delegates from Denpasar came to Darwin to meet with various organisations across Darwin during their stay. The meetings held provided the opportunity to discuss study, training, and employment prospects for their students.



As an outcome after the visit to Darwin in February and the participation in the Darwin International Trade Show on 4 and 5 June 2023, IPB International signed a MOU with Darwin based [International College of Advance Education](#) (ICAE) resulting in a *Career Opportunity in Darwin* seminar held in Denpasar on 6 September 2023 with 300 hotel and culinary students in attendance. Mr Sean Mahoney, Managing Director of IC AE presented information on career opportunities in Darwin and was well received by the students.



Furthermore, medical college of IPB International [STIKES Wira Medika](#) and the [University of Bali International](#) confirmed there will be further cooperation with Darwin-based [Fox Education](#), which focuses on caregiver and nursing training. A MOU was established to enable the partnership to pursue continuous study in Darwin for their students and opportunities to work whilst studying in Darwin.

## Australian Government Update

### **Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040**

Australia's new Southeast Asia Economic Strategy is a national strategy for the Australian Government for greater trade and investment between Australia and Southeast Asia, which outlines actions that are central to shifting economic potential into economic growth for Australia.

Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040 sets out a practical pathway to significantly increase two-way trade and investment between Australia and Southeast Asia.

The Strategy outlines four categories of actions needed to realise the potential with the region: raise awareness, remove blockages, build capability, and deepen investment.

Businesses from Darwin and its Sister and Friendship are encouraged to view the strategic directions and explore the opportunities to grow and expand your business in the following ten sectors. These sectors were identified as they offer the most potential for greater commercial activity between Australia and Southeast Asia.





## Northern Territory Government Update

### Global Trade Scheme

The Northern Territory Government recognises the importance of international trade and supporting both new and established Territory exporters, to grow and strengthen the Territory's economy. The export of Territory goods and services in key priority sectors that will drive growth is an important aspect of the Northern Territory Government's Territory Economic Reconstruction Commission (TERC) Report, towards achieving the ambitious goal of a \$40B economy by 2030.

The 'Global Trade Scheme' has been established to assist Northern Territory businesses to grow, develop and expand their export capability and capacity and increase trade.

The Global Trade Scheme includes 3 streams of support for businesses that:

- are at the beginning of their export journey,
- want to diversify into exports, and
- want to expand or diversify into existing or new international markets.

The application is open for businesses and will close on 30 June 2023 for Stream 3 applications and 30 June 2027 for Stream's 1 and 2 applications.

For more information on the application, please visit [Global Trade Scheme | NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au/global-trade-scheme/).

## Study in Darwin

The Northern Territory offers high-quality education with an unparalleled cultural and natural experience. Immerse yourself in stunning landscapes, rich First Nations culture, and a vibrant

multicultural community that makes this region truly unique.

The following support towards the first semester or year of tuition fees is available for international students studying with higher education, schools and VET/TAFE providers in Darwin:

- \$6000 for higher education
- \$5000 for schools
- \$3750 for VET

For more information on submitting an application, please visit [studynt.nt.gov.au](https://studynt.nt.gov.au).

Study NT has established an International Student Accommodation Grant to assist international students, who are considering relocation to Darwin. The grant will cover the first 6 weeks of the student's accommodation fee at [International House Darwin](#), located on-campus at Charles Darwin University or [UniLodge Darwin](#).

For more information on the Accommodation Grant, please visit [studynt.nt.gov.au](https://studynt.nt.gov.au).



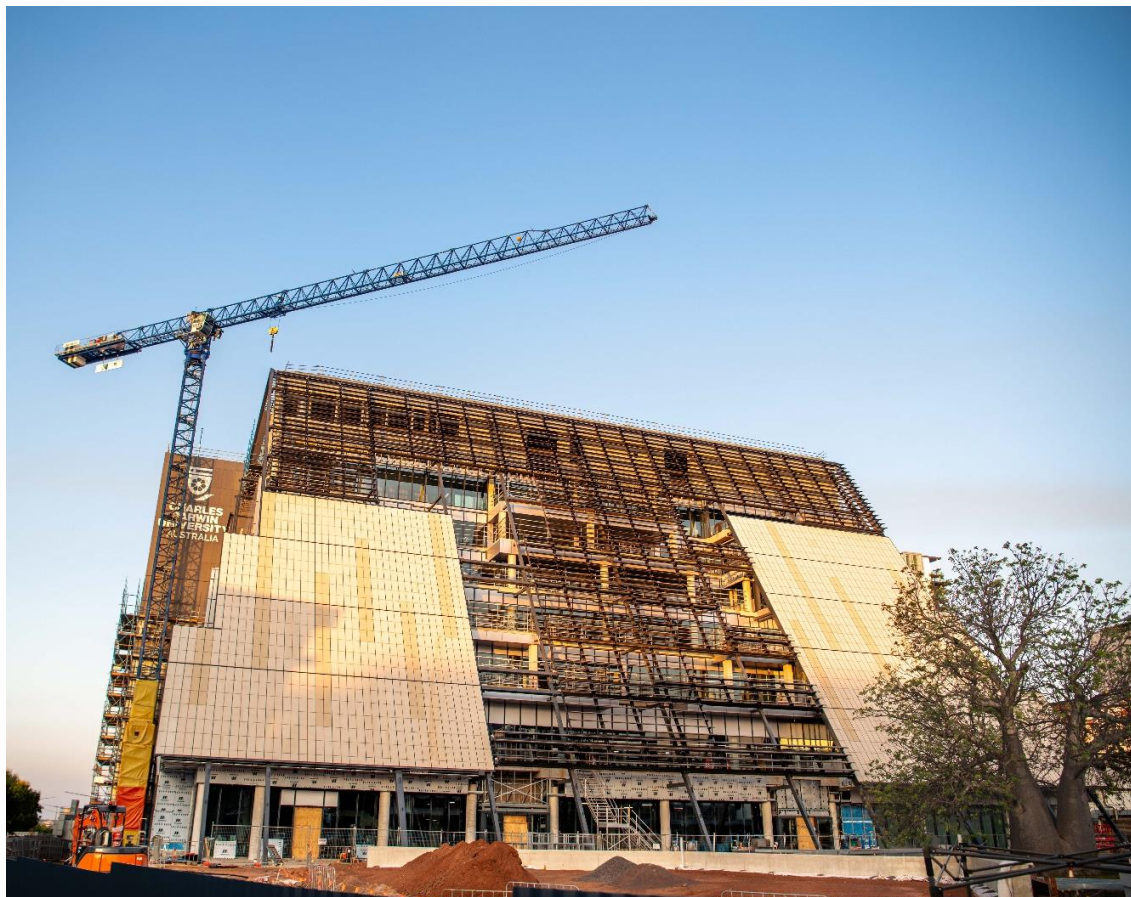
### Charles Darwin University

The [Education and Community Precinct](#) (new Darwin city campus) is set to open in 2024. As a key project in the Darwin City Deal, [Charles Darwin University](#) (CDU) is building a \$250 million state-of-the-art and iconic education and community precinct in the heart of Darwin. The new city campus will have state-of-the-art infrastructure to enhance teaching quality and the student learning experience. The proximity of students to the working realities of their chosen industries in the city will benefit future workforce requirements.

CDU offers a range of scholarships to support international students coming to study at CDU

from around the globe. [See full list](#) of scholarships available.

If you are interested in studying at Charles Darwin University and want more information about studying in Darwin. Please chat with the current [students and alumni](#) to get the inside scoop.



## Work in Darwin

Darwin has an incredible range of employment opportunities and prospects for rapid career progression if you have the skills and desire.

There are opportunities for both high skill occupation and seasonal labourers and short-term international visitors in hospitality, retail, tourism, food and agribusiness.

Various work visa options exist including Working Holiday Visas, Training Visas and Short-Stay Specialist Visas. For more information on visas, please visit [Visa holders work rights | The Territory, Australia](#). For more information on job opportunities for international students and migrants, please visit [Work | The Territory, Australia](#).



Tourism NT/Helen Orr

## Local stories

Tony Miaoudis, has recently been acknowledged by City of Darwin for his long service as a community representative of the Darwin Sister City Advisory Committee for more than 20 years. His excellent work, substantive effort, and contribution to our Sister City project are appreciated by City of Darwin and the community.

Tony arrived in Darwin from our Sister City Kalymnos, Greece in 1970. He came with a working visa and has worked as a licensed electrical engineer in Darwin since then.

He chose to immigrate to Darwin over other big cities because of the abundance of work opportunities and the tropical lifestyle that make Darwin the top destination for him and his family.

Tony is married with three kids and six grandchildren and has established a successful family business with his children in Darwin.

In his spare time, Tony manages a local Greek radio station in Darwin which provides him the opportunity to be involved and stay connected with the Greek community in Darwin.

Tony is a proud Greek Australian and he enjoys the lifestyle and diversity that Darwin has to

offer. He is proud of the established reputation through his hard work and contribution to the community.



Mr Tony Miaoudis (middle) and his wife Ms Rena Miaoudis with six grandchildren Adonis Miaoudis, Anna Miaoudis, Eirini Miaoudis, Themeli Miaoudis, Hristo Bagala, and Antonio Bagala

## What's on

### A Very Darwin Christmas Pageant

Christmas is a time for everyone to come together and celebrate the magic of Christmas in Darwin this festive season.

Christmas in Darwin is unique, and this event showcases our vibrant community spirit – it's incredibly heart-warming to see so many Territorians come together at this special time of year.

This year's 'A very Darwin Christmas' pageant will be held on Saturday 18 November in Darwin city. Following the pageant, there will be a range of fun and family friendly Christmas themed activities throughout Darwin City, including:

- Darwin's Lord Mayor will officially launch Christmas in Darwin at the lighting of the Christmas Tree, following the spectacular Christmas Pageant on Saturday 18 November 2023.
- Santa's Village will open from Friday 24 November.
- We're spreading the Christmas cheer across Darwin with free activities for the whole family through three Ward Christmas Parties on 25 November, 9 December and 16 December 2023.

- Other activities for example, Lord Mayor's award for best Christmas shop front in Darwin City Centre and Carols by Candlelight on 3 December 2023.

Visit our website for information on all the Christmas cheer happening this year at [Christmas pageant returns for 2023 | City of Darwin | Darwin Council, Northern Territory](#).



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Our mailing address is:

GPO Box 84 Darwin NT 0801

Email: [international@darwin.nt.gov.au](mailto:international@darwin.nt.gov.au)

[www.discover.darwin.nt.gov.au](http://www.discover.darwin.nt.gov.au)



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Next City of Darwin International Relations update will be distributed in March/April 2024

**9.7 YOUTH GROUP VISIT FROM KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY COUNCIL, UGANDA**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations

**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development

**Attachments:** 1. Inbound Delegation Request Kampala Capital Council, Uganda [↓](#)

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Youth Group Visit from Kampala Capital City Council, Uganda be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee to provide the feedback and comments on the visit request from Kampala Capital City Council to Darwin.

**BACKGROUND**

City of Darwin received a request from the Kampala Capital City Council, Uganda to visit Darwin in February 2024. An invitation is requested from City of Darwin to the group with the tentative itinerary developed for the delegation.

Kampala Capital City Council will cover the flights, accommodation and on ground logistics cost for their delegation.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek the feedback and comments from the International Relations Advisory Committee on their request and the potential activities that can be organised based on their purpose as in **Attachment 1**.

City of Darwin Youth Committee and Sister City Advisory Committee were also invited to provide the feedback.



## Inbound Delegation Visit Request Form

All inbound delegation visit requests must complete the following *Inbound Delegation Visit Request Form* and submit to the International Relations Office for review and further instruction. The requests need to reach our office at least **four (4) weeks** prior to the proposed date of visit.

Should you have any questions, please contact the International Relations Office on +61 8 8930 0529.

Contact details of person completing this form			
Application date	3/10/2023		
Contact name	Anna Gertude Logose	Organisation	Kampala Capital City Council
Email		Phone number	
Please provide the following information			
Proposed date and time of visit	February 2024		
Organisation	Kampala Capital City Youth Council	Website	<a href="https://www.kcca.go.ug">https://www.kcca.go.ug</a>
Please provide a brief background of the visiting delegates' organisation or governing body			
<p>The KCCA Youth council is an umbrella body that governs the youth in the capital city of Uganda. This council consists of 15 members who represent the youth from all sectors right from the social life perspective to the civil societies. This council is mandated to be in existence under the Uganda National Youth Council Act.</p>			
What is the purpose of your visit to the Darwin?			
<p>Our Council intends to benchmark from the economic and social well-being of people especially the youth in the City of Darwin. We intend to do a field report with benchmarked settings upon which we can review and re-strategize the modus operandi of youth activities and programs in Africa particularly Uganda –Kampala. Our visit will also create a youth think tank back at home based on regional youth councils to stem down the same learnt values and benchmarkings from the city of Darwin. We also intend to advocate for future relations between the Ugandan Youth and the Austrian Youths.</p>			
Please provide an overview of your city			
<p>Kampala is the Capital City of Uganda the Pearl of Africa found within the East African Region. The City has about 1.6million people with about 80% youth. The City is divided into 5 divisions namely, Central, Kawempe, Rubaga, Nakawa and Makindye. The City has majority of the major business hubs, leisure parks and main government offices.</p> <p>Kampala is one of the most charming cities in Africa. Located on the shores of lake Victoria, kampala is favourite for many holiday markers and vacationers. The city enjoys good climate, and the people in a friendly. Kampala is commercial and administrative capital of Uganda and fondly known as the "Green city in the sun". This city is spread over twenty hills with its architecture being a blend of modern, colonial and Indian Cultures. It lies to the south the world's second largest fresh water lake Victoria.</p>			
Delegation details			





Name of delegation leader <i>Please attach a biography or CV of the delegation leader</i>		Anne Gertrude Logose	Number of delegates	18
Will the delegation leader be the spokesperson for the group?			Yes	
<b>Delegation list</b> - Please list in order of highest ranking official and include the name, title and organisation of each member in the delegation (e.g. Mr Joe Smith, Director, Smith Company)				
Title	First Name	Last Name	Position & Organisation	
Mrs	Sheila	Birungi	Director Gender and Community Services and Production Kampala Capital City Authority	
Mr	Daniel	Kaseregenyi	Deputy Director Gender and Community Services and Production-KCCA	
Mrs	Eunice	Tumwebaze	Youth Manager-KCCA	
Ms	Anna Gertrude	Logose	Chairperson- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Jane	Nalwoga	Vice Chairperson- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Ali Musa	Ssegane	General Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Josephine	Nanteza	Publicity Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Fauzia	Nansukusa	Finance Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Isaiah	Sserwadda	Students Affairs- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Dorothy	Zalwango	Sports Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Eleanor Sarah	Kyomuhangi	Female Affairs- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Shakila	Nanungi	Cultural Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Jamaldin	Kizito	Labor Affairs Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Violet	Namutebi	Legal Affairs- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Charles Kalegga	Kizza	People With Disabilities- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Dickson Keefa	Ainomugisha	NGO Secretary- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Esther	Muwanguzi	Uganda National Students Rep- Female- KCCA Youth Council	
Mr	Mike	Tagoya	Uganda National Students Rep-Male- KCCA Youth Council	
Ms	Hilda	Natwijuka	Health Minister- KCCA Youth Council	
Name of interpreter accompanying the delegation				
N/A				
Please list other cities the delegation will be visiting and attach an itinerary				
N/A				



Where will the delegation be staying (hotel name)?			
It will be dependent on the host's decision			
Please indicate who the contact person will be when the delegation is in Darwin:			
Name	Anna Gertrude Logose	Phone number	

**Business objectives**

Please indicate which area of Council you are interested in learning about [www.darwin.nt.gov.au](http://www.darwin.nt.gov.au)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> culture	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> planning/urban design	<input type="checkbox"/> City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> management	<input type="checkbox"/> City events	Visiting Innovation hubs and villages
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental protection	<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> management	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste and	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism (infrastructure / visitor servicing)			

Based on your selection above, please outline specifically what the delegation would like to learn

We would wish to bench mark from all the activities selected above since our council has entirely all the representatives regarding the areas above. More to that the areas above are a fundamental areas of attention and change within our communities However we would wish to strongly draw our interest into Economic development, Arts and Culture, Education and Waste Management.

Please list below any other topics of discussion for the meeting. Are there any outcomes you wish to achieve?

**Youth Innovations In Uganda Visa Vs Austria.**

The innovations will create awareness, educate, nurture and inculcate a culture of innovation amongst us and to enable us to generate new ideas and become more innovative.  
We hope to benchmark from the modern methods of work in Austria To Uganda.

**Gender Inclusivity.**

We envision learning a 360-degree perspective of gender inclusivity of all sexes in work from the Austria concept and continuing to re advocate the same back at home.  
How better and easier does it get Austria to employ gender Inclusivity policies?

**Education Evolvement towards Skilling and Retooling.**

We hope this discussion will dwell more on how we can stretch our brains to learn a thing or two on how we can re

City of Darwin collects this information for the purpose to provide the services and carry out Council's functions. Council may disclose the information provided by you to a third party, as required or authorised by the City of Darwin By-Laws of the Local Government Act or in accordance with the Information Act or our Privacy Policy which is available on our website <https://www.darwin.nt.gov.au/council/publications-and-forms/privacy-statement> on request from Council's office. You may obtain access to your personal information by Council by submitting a request fro information form that is available on our website or from the "Information Officer" +61 8 8930 0300



structure our education system in Africa to entirely create skilled labour for the emerging economies whose needs demands skills.

#### Other requirements

Please indicate if you require any of the following additional services (please note costs may be associated)

Pre-arranged business matching

Translating services

Special dietary requirements

Prayer time

Accessibility requirements *(please specify):*

Other *(please specify):*

**Please return your completed form to the International Relations Office via email**

**[international@darwin.nt.gov.au](mailto:international@darwin.nt.gov.au)**

**Upon receipt of the form, the International Relations office will assess the request and a City officer will be in contact for further action.**

## 10 MEMBER REPORTS

### 10.1 FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF QUANZHOU

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be received and noted.

That the International Relations Advisory Committee support the Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou.

THIS REPORT IS PRESENTED BY SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

#### BACKGROUND

The Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou was supported by Sister City Advisory Committee on 1 March 2023.

Darwin has strategic relationships with seven Sister Cities, including Ambon (Indonesia), Anchorage (USA), Dili (Timor-Leste), Haikou (China), Kalymnos (Greece), Milikapiti (Northern Territory, Australia) and Denpasar (Indonesia) and four Friendship Cities including Qingdao, China, Honolulu, USA, Santa Cruz-Galapagos, Ecuador, and Guangzhou, China.

The purpose of the relationships varies between the Cities. The strategic basis for the relationships includes terms such as geographical proximity and ease of trade opportunities, historical connections, immigration relationships and unique, common challenges with First Nations populations.

The International Relations and Sister City Policy provides the framework to establish a Friendship City with international cities. As per the Policy, before a Sister City relationship can commence, a city must have had a strategic partnership arrangement in place for a minimum period of two (2) years.

#### BASIS OF PROPOSAL

The proposed development of a Friendship City relationship with Quanzhou is based on both historical and immigration factors in addition to understating how a port of trade entry city manages the challenges of a logistics hub.

The proposal fits into current structure of friendship city relationships with historical linkages. The current sister city relationship with Kalymnos is based on historical post-war migration from this area.

One important factor in the proposed Quanzhou relationship is the long (Territory) history of immigration from Fujian Province in addition to more recent immigration particularly in relation to the Trade Development Zone activities in Darwin during the late 1980's.

Many of the Chinese heritage families in Darwin can trace their immigration journey to the shores of Fujian Province. For example, Lawrence AhToy and the Japes trace their ancestry back to the

Fujian region. Whilst we cannot know for sure that their ancestors' departure point was the port of Quanzhou city, a Friendship City relationship would be highly symbolic of this pattern of Darwin migration. Establishing a Friendship City relationship within Fujian Province acknowledges lasting cultural heritage within the Northern Territory.

More recently, many who arrived as part of the Trade Development Zone proposals and other activities have established themselves in the Northern Territory as significant leaders in the business, social and cultural community of Darwin. These add to the immediate person-to-person immigration links that make Quanzhou a suitable candidate for a Friendship City relationship.

The second important factor derives from a longer term historical connection. On a larger historical basis, Quanzhou was one of the supporting departure ports for the great journeys undertaken by Chinese Admiral Zheng He in establishing what became known as the maritime silk road.

There is some evidence that Admiral Zheng He visited Darwin, making Darwin the southern-most point of the Maritime Silk Road. This is a very important historical link with China, and in particular with Quanzhou. The voyages complimented the established relationships between the Macassans of the Indonesian archipelago, the Chinese and the First Nations peoples of Northern Australia. A friendship city relationship with Quanzhou would enhance and acknowledge these centuries-old connections in trade routes and cultural exchange.

### **BENEFITS FROM THIS FRIENDSHIP CITY RELATIONSHIP**

These historical and immigration relationships make it appropriate that Quanzhou be considered as a Friendship City with Darwin. The establishment of this relationship would help facilitate sharing of information between the Cities, create and revise connections that actively contribute to the development and implementation of best practice policy, procedures, planning and programming. This would increase positive community, cultural, and economic outcomes in keeping with the City of Darwin's Strategic Plan by embracing a section of Darwin's social development history that is not currently fully recognised in any strategic relationship.

The proposal to investigate developing a Friendship City relationship with Quanzhou will enhance cross-cultural understanding and build vibrant and connected communities and generating mutual benefits for both cities through the educational, cultural, professional, economic and humanitarian exchanges.

### **ADDENDUM - QUANZHOU CITY BACKGROUND**

Quanzhou, located in the southeast of Fujian province, is one of the three major central cities of Fujian. It is also home to Quanzhou Economic and Technological Development Zone and Quanzhou Taiwan Investment Zone. The city covers 11,015 square kilometers (including Jinmen) and has a permanent population of 8.7 million (excluding Jinmen).

Quanzhou stands in front of mountains and faces the sea. Hills, valleys and basins are scattered throughout the city. Its terrain is high in the northwest and low in the southeast. There are more than 667,000 hectares of mountainous land in Quanzhou, taking up 80 percent of its land.

#### **Coasts and ports**

Quanzhou has a sea area of 11,360 sq km, a 541-km-long coastline, 14 large and small harbours and 207 islands. Most of the harbours are deep water harbours which provide 123 deep water berths of more than 10,000 tons. The area of marine fishing grounds is more than 5,000 sq km, 118 sq km of which can be exploited. There are more than 500 kinds of marine aquatic organisms, nearly 100 kinds of marine commercial fish, and more than 200 kinds of oysters, mussels, clams, snails, kelp, laver and other shellfish and algae.

Quanzhou features a subtropical oceanic monsoon climate, with warm and humid weather throughout the year.

## Resources

Quanzhou's forest growing stock is about 40.18 million cubic meters. Quanzhou has proven reserves of more than 130 mineral deposits, including eight large ones. The main mineral resources include more than 30 types, such as kaolin, granite, diabase, quartz sand, limestone, coal, iron, manganese, geothermal and mineral water.

## History

Quanzhou is one of the famous historical and cultural cities approved by the State Council, Culture City of East Asia, and the starting point of the ancient Maritime Silk Road.

Quanzhou was an important port for foreign trade in Chinese history, with an over-1,000-year history of overseas transport. Since the Tang Dynasty (618-907), it has been one of the four major foreign trade ports in southern China. During the Song (960-1279) and Yuan (1271-1368) dynasties, Quanzhou port rose to be the first of the four major ports, known as Zayton Port worldwide, and became the "largest port in the east" comparable to Alexandria in Egypt.

Quanzhou is also a famous hometown of overseas Chinese and the main ancestral home of Taiwan Han nationals. Quanzhou is the ancestral home of over 7.2 million overseas Chinese living around the world, over 700,000 citizens in Hong Kong and Macao, and over nine million of the Han ethnic group in Taiwan. Many of these people invest in businesses, schools and public projects in Quanzhou. They have become an important force in the economic and social development of the city, and a link between Quanzhou and the world.

Quanzhou has a long history and its economic development began as early as the Zhou Dynasty (c.11th century-256 BC). In 260, during the Three Kingdoms period (220-280), Dongan county was established in today's Fengzhou town in Nan'an, which marked the start of Quanzhou's prefecture system.

At the end of the Western Jin Dynasty (265-316), due to wars in the central plains area, many people moved into Quanzhou and settled along the river. The river has been called Jinjiang ever since. The people brought advanced production technology and cultural knowledge, which led to rapid development on both sides of the river.

With the development of the economy, the administrative division system in Quanzhou changed several times. In January 1986, Quanzhou prefecture-level city was set up.

The city has 824 cultural relic protection units at all levels, including 31 at the national level and 87 at the provincial level. Renowned cultural relics include the oldest existing mosque in China, the thousand-year-old Kaiyuan Temple, and the oldest existing cross-sea girder bridge in China, Luoyang Bridge.

The rich cultural landscape, unique folk customs and natural scenery make Quanzhou a national and international tourist resort, attracting more and more tourists from across the world.

## Economic development

Since China's reform and opening-up began in 1978, Quanzhou's economy has achieved leap frog development, becoming one of the fastest growing and most dynamic areas in China, as well as officially one of the 18 typical areas of reform and opening-up in China.

Quanzhou's GDP in 1978 was 779 million yuan (\$111 million), 10 billion yuan in 1992, 100 billion yuan in 2002, 500 billion yuan in 2013 and 994.67 billion yuan in 2019. Total revenue in the general public budget increased from 80 million yuan to 83.9 billion yuan. In 1978, the per capita net income of rural residents was only 75 yuan, and in 2019 the disposable income of rural residents was 22,142 yuan. The per capita disposable income of urban residents increased from 324 yuan in 1978 to 49,592 yuan.

Quanzhou is striving to build a characteristic economy, promoting characteristic manufacturing industries such as resin processing, shoes and garments, building materials, stone carving and oolong tea in China and around the world.

The process of urban and rural integration has been accelerated by professionalization, localization, regionalization and clustering of production, which have led to the construction and prosperity of Quanzhou. The city's urbanization level is 65.7 percent, the bay area is 220 sq km, and central urban green coverage is 43.2 percent, with a complete three-dimensional traffic network and municipal facilities. Quanzhou is among the three central cities in Fujian province.

Besides economic development, Quanzhou pays special attention to its culture and urban construction. The city has won various titles and honours such as International Garden City, National Civilized City, National Sanitary City and National Garden City.

**Quanzhou City is currently sister city to:**

1. Urasoe, Japan
2. Monterey Park, the United States
3. Neustadt, Germany
4. Mersin, Turkey
5. San Diego, the United States
6. Herault, France
7. Holbæk, Denmark
8. Kuching, Malaysia
9. Maykop, Russia.

**10.2 MEMBERS VERBAL UPDATES**

**Author:** Manager International Business Relations  
**Authoriser:** Executive Manager Growth & Economic Development  
**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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



**11 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil

**12 NEXT MEETING**

11am 13 March 2024

**13 CLOSURE OF MEETING**



# **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

**Order Of Business**

<b>1</b>	<b>Meeting Declared Open</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies &amp; Leave Of Absence</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Electronic Attendance</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Actions Arising from Previous Minutes</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Presentations</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Officer Reports</b> .....	<b>5</b>
	9.1 International Relations Quarterly Update.....	5
	9.2 Project Closure Report - Darwin International Dragon Boat Festival 2023.....	5
	9.3 Sister city relationship proposal with Tiwi Islands Regional Council.....	6
<b>10</b>	<b>Member Reports</b> .....	<b>6</b>
	10.1 Guangzhou Mandarin Learning Program.....	6
	10.2 Discover Darwin website update .....	6
	10.3 Members Verbal Updates.....	7
<b>11</b>	<b>General Business</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>11:00 am, 29 November 2023</b>	.....	<b>8</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>CLOSURE OF MEETING</b> .....	<b>8</b>

## **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 8/8**

### **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 Samantha 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 officers

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.