

# OPEN SECTION

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## CITY OF DARWIN

### COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

#### MONDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2012

MEMBERS: Member G I Galton (Chairman); The Right Worshipful, The Lord Mayor, Ms K M Fong Lim; Member R M Knox; Member A R Mitchell; Member R Want de Rowe.

OFFICERS: Chief Executive Officer, Mr B Dowd; General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Mr J Banks; Executive Manager, Mr M Blackburn; Manager Community Development, Ms K Hearn; Executive Officer, Ms A Smit.

***Enquiries and/or Apologies: Arweena Smit***  
***E-mail: a.smit@darwin.nt.gov.au - PH: 89300 685***

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#### ***Committee's Responsibilities***

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| * Recreation & Leisure   | * Animal Management            |
| * Children & Youth   | * Inspectorial Services        |
| * Arts and Culture   | * Parking Control              |
| * Community Services & Support   | * Public Libraries             |
| * Human Services   | * Recreation                   |
| * Community Use of Halls, Ovals,<br>Playing Fields, Public Pools<br>and other Council Facilities | * Social Planning and Advocacy |
| * Sister Cities Management Community Committee's   | * Darwin Entertainment Centre  |

*THAT effective as of 16 April 2012 Council, pursuant to Section 32 (2)(b) of the Local Government Act 2008 hereby delegates to the Community & Cultural Services Committee the power to make recommendations to Council and decisions relating to Community & Cultural matters within the approved budget.*

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Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Monday, 17 September, 2012

## 1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

## 2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 2.1 Apologies

### 2.2 Leave of Absence Granted

THAT it be noted that Member R M Knox is an apology due to a Leave of Absence being previously granted on 14 August 2012 for the period 17 September 2012 to 23 September 2012.

DECISION NO.21\() (17/09/12)

## 3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

## 4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

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Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Monday, 17 September, 2012**5 WITHDRAWAL OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION****COMMITTEE'S DECISION**

THAT the Committee resolve under delegated authority that all Information Items and Officers Reports to the Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting held on Monday, 17 September, 2012, be received and all recommendations contained therein be adopted by general consent with the exception of Item Number .....

DECISION NO.21\() (17/09/12)

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES PERTAINING TO THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES MEETING****COMMITTEE'S DECISION**

THAT the Committee resolve that the minutes of the previous Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting held on Monday, 20 August 2012 tabled by the Chairman, be received and confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

DECISION NO.21\() (17/09/12)

**7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PERTAINING TO THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES MEETING****7.1 Business Arising**

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Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Monday, 17 September, 2012

## 8 INFORMATION ITEMS

Nil

**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEE/OPEN A**

**AGENDA ITEM: 9.1**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM UPDATE - AUGUST 2012**

**REPORT No.: 12C0068 HB:es**

**COMMON No.: 1733166**

**DATE: 17/09/2012**

**Presenter: Acting Manager Community Development, Hayley Barich**

**Approved: A/General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Fiona Ray**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of activities within the Cultural & Community Services portfolio and selected projects. Each Officer within the Community Development Team has prepared their own sections to appraise Council of operational activities during August 2012.

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

**Goal**

5 Facilitate and Maintain a Cohesive Community

**Outcome**

5.1 Facilitate community access and inclusion

**KEY ISSUES**

- Disability Services
- Youth Services
- Arts and Cultural
- Family and Children's Services
- Sister Cities

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That it be a recommendation to Council:-

THAT Report Number 12C0068 HS:es entitled, Community Development Team Update - August 2012, be received and noted.

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REPORT NUMBER: 12C0068 HB:es  
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM UPDATE - AUGUST 2012

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## **BACKGROUND**

Monthly activity reports are provided to appraise Council of operational activities across the key portfolios.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Community Services (CSO)**

The Community Services Officer has carriage of disability services, community events, community grants, seniors and community development activities.

### **Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)**

The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) met on Thursday 23 August. The Committee did not achieve a quorum so the Minutes will be presented to the Community and Cultural Services Committee for endorsement of recommendations. This was the first meeting for the new two year term of the Committee. The key items discussed included Disability Awareness Week, Community Access Plan 2012 – 2017 and the National Disability Insurance Scheme. A recommendation was made for Council to contribute \$1000 to the *Every Australian Counts* campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Council has contributed \$1000 to this campaign each year for the last two years.

### **Seniors Month 2012**

Seniors Month was celebrated throughout the Northern Territory during August. CSO, in conjunction with Libraries Project Officer, facilitated Council's 2012 Seniors Month. The program contained a variety of activities which aimed to promote active ageing and a positive understanding of ageing in the community. Events included an aqua-aerobic session at Parap Swimming Pool, two health and wellbeing sessions held in partnership with Alzheimer's Australia NT at the Water Gardens and the Nightcliff Community Centre, introductory art sessions at Casuarina Library, two photography sessions, a tai chi class and a film night at Deckchair Cinema. All activities were free of charge for senior members of the community. All activities were filled to capacity and very positive feedback has been received from attendees.

### **Disability Awareness Week 2012**

Disability Awareness Week (DAW) is a week long program that provides an opportunity to acknowledge and take pride in the contributions that Territorians with disability make to the community and also to raise public awareness on disability issues. This year DAW will be celebrated from Saturday 1 to Sunday 8 September with the theme *Our Lives, Our Choices*. The DAW Coordination Committee have finalised a varied program of events and six inspiring, local people with disability have agreed to be Ambassadors for the week's activities. Promotional posters have been distributed and information has been supplied to local media outlets as well as being available on Council's website.

Celebrations will commence with the Official Opening of DAW 2012 by Her Honour The Honourable Sally Thomas at Government House on Monday 3 September. Other events include the annual Happiness and Wellbeing Market in Raintree Park,



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Darwin Business Breakfast with the Hon Jeff Kennett, a free movie night at Deckchair Cinema, a Know Your Rights forum at Carers NT, the Bowerbird Festival at Carpentaria Disability Services and an Open Day at Rehabilitation Services at Royal Darwin Hospital. In addition, there will be artwork by local artists on display in the Community Art Space in Council's Civic Centre throughout September.

### **Community Access Plan 2012 – 2017**

City of Darwin's Community Access Plan 2012 - 2017 describes actions to be undertaken to facilitate access and inclusion for all members of our community. The Plan will be instrumental in facilitating equitable and dignified access to Council services, communications and employment systems, and will enhance access in the broader community. The Community Action Plan 2012 - 2017 has been endorsed by Council and 100 hard copies have been printed. The Plan is available on Council's website in pdf format and large print. An MP3 version is currently being produced and will be made available on Council's website once complete. The Community Access Plan 2012 – 2017 has been lodged with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

### **Youth Projects**

The Youth Projects section facilitates involvement of young people in Council's processes and decision making, creates and hosts youth exclusive events and activities in partnership with young people, hosts a Youth Services trainee position, advocates for the needs of young people and coordinates youth specific community information tools.

### **GRINDonline**

The GRINDonline team continued regular meetings in August. The Darwin Festival remained a focal point for GRIND contributions with 15 articles related to the festival being submitted. Opportunities were created for GRINDonline members through the ongoing relationship with the Darwin Festival. The GRIND website can be viewed at [www.grindonline.com.au](http://www.grindonline.com.au)

### **Youth Advisory Group (YAG)**

The YAG returned to regular meetings after the July school holidays. August's meeting saw the Advisory Group discuss the implementation of the Youth Arts Bank and the upcoming NT Youth Conference to be held October 1 and 2.

### **THE GIG GEAR**

The GIG GEAR was accessed four times during August. The community groups that accessed the equipment were the Top End Orienteers, The NT Hockey Association, The Australian Red Cross and The Probus Club of Darwin. The program continues to be a popular community resource.

### **NETWORKING**

The Youth Services Officer attended the August DARWWYN meeting. The Youth Services Officer met with Youth Services Officer of the City of Palmerston. The Youth Services Officer met with youth service providers and the Deputy Secretary of

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the Department of Employment Education and Workplace Relations, Schools and Youth.

## **Arts & Cultural Development**

### **Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee (ACDAC)**

The Committee's third meeting for the year was held on 9 August 2012. A call for Expressions of Interest from individuals wishing to nominate for the Committee has been advertised with Expressions of Interest closing 1 October 2012. Up to seven positions on the Committee are available. An online nomination process has been established.

### **Civic Park Cultural Usage Plan**

Consultants Creative Sight were engaged to develop a Civic Park Cultural Usage Plan presenting a vision for improving the amenity and invigorating cultural usage of Civic Park through an upgrade of infrastructure and landscaping. Consultant Renai Grace (Creative Sight) will present the Plan at the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee's next meeting on 25 September 2012 for further discussion. The Plan will also be presented to Council for information.

### **Public Art – Centenary of the Naming of Darwin**

Three artists were commissioned to undertake concept design work for a new work of Public Art in Bicentennial Park celebrating the centenary of the Naming of Darwin. Two of the artists accepted an offer to undertake advanced concept design work addressing identified technical concerns. These concept designs will be presented to Council for consideration, before proceeding to artwork selection and commission.

### **Public Art – Eye of the Explorer**

Technical advice is being sought regarding long-term maintenance of the artwork.

### **Public Art – HMS Beagle Ship Bell Chime**

The Bell Chime continues to be enjoyed by locals and tourists visiting Civic Park. Occasional requests by community groups and members of the public for one-off playing are also being accommodated. Maintenance work will be carried out on the artwork in October 2012 including repainting of the bird sculptures.

### **Public Art – Chime Conservatory**

Maintenance work will be carried out on the artwork in the second half of 2012 including repainting of the conservatory structure.

### **Poster Facilities in the Mall**

Council has endorsed the development of two dedicated poster facilities in the Mall, integrated with current shade structures, to provide for the promotion of community events by not-for-profit community groups. Design advice is now being sought.

### **Community Art Space (Civic Centre)**

Council is hosting an exhibition celebrating Disability Awareness Week, "Our Lives, Our Choices" featuring works by Nemarluk School, Henbury School, Life Without

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Barriers, Total Recreation and Top End Mental Health Consumers Organisation. Around 30 people attended the exhibition launch on Tuesday 4 September.

### **Art Workshops**

Artist Elise Goodrich was engaged to create a 'Pebble Mandala' temporary artwork as part of Disability Awareness Week celebrations at the Happiness and Wellbeing Market held in Raintree Park on 5 September. Interested members of the public were invited to join in creating the work out of natural plant materials, pebbles and sand.

### **Family & Children's Services**

The Family & Children's Services Coordinator (FCSC) manages Council's Community and Child Care Centres, the Fun Bus, Fun in the Parks, special projects and facilitates the school civics program.

### **Fun in the Parks**

Council's Fun in the Parks is a school holiday program focused on primary school aged children. The program operates from 10am to 12.30pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday of school holidays.

A Fun in the Park staff member provided face painting at Council's City Library Reading Hour event.

The FCSC is currently planning for the October school holiday program which will operate from Monday 1 October to Friday 5 October.

The Fun in the Park trailer has been replaced with a new trailer with shelving, outside bench, shade and a ramp with new external artwork. See photo's below.



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### **Fun Bus**

The Fun Bus continues to provide high quality mobile play group services for children 0 to 5 years, their parents and carers. The Fun Bus operates weekdays 9.30am to 11.30am in parks and reserves for a total of 40 weeks each year.

During Darwin Festival, the Fun Bus changed their Friday location from Civic Park to George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens.

The Fun Bus program assisted the Department of Health & Families with the “Counsel the Family on Care for Child Development” program, by providing equipment and a staff member to run a playgroup session for participants to practice their skills.

### **Community Centres**

Council has three Community Centres that cater for a variety of community activities. They are located at Malak, Nightcliff and Lyons.

A Project Brief was developed to investigate options to reduce the internal temperature of the Nightcliff Community Centre Hall facility through a range of environmentally preferable options. Bennett Design presented the final Nightcliff Community Centre Hall Cooling report to Community & Cultural Services and Infrastructure Department on the 20 August.

### **National Child Protection Week**

This year's National Child Protection campaign is “*play your part*” in preventing child abuse and neglect by keeping all children and young people safe.

Planning and preparation are under way for the development of a Family Fun morning on Wednesday 5 September at Jingili Water Gardens, in partnership with Playgroup NT.

### **In kind support**

The Fun and Games equipment program supported the Teddy Bears Picnic part of the Darwin Festival, KNC Fun Day and Miracles Babies Annual Picnic.

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The Fun Bus attended the Teddy Bears picnic on Sunday 12 August as in-kind sponsorship. This is an extremely popular event attracting exceptionally large numbers.

### **Sister Cities Program**

#### **Committee Appointments**

Committee appointments were endorsed by Council and all applicants to the Sister City Committees have been notified. A meeting schedule has been developed for all Sister City Committee members until December 2012. The new Committees will meet in September. Planning is currently underway for capacity building Advisory Committee workshops that will be offered to all Sister City, Disability and Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee members.

#### **Dili**

The youth exchange project and Library facilities for Action for Change Foundation project are currently in progress.

#### **Ambon**

Two students and a teacher from Ambon spent three weeks of August in Darwin, attending school and boarding at Kormilda College. During their visit they attended the Lord Mayoral reception for race goes of the Darwin to Ambon Yacht Race, Flag Raising Ceremony at the Consulate, Indonesian Independence Celebrations, and performed traditional Ambonese song and dance at Ambon Night held 23 August. The students and teacher also had the opportunity to meet with the Mayor of Ambon who visited Darwin for the Darwin to Ambon yacht race start.

#### **Sister City Film Night – Upcoming – Thursday 13 September**

The Sister Cities Program has been successful in being allocated a fundraising night at Deckchair Cinema. The film night will be held Thursday 13 September and 'The Lady,' the extraordinary story of Aung San Suu Kyi and her quest for democracy will be shown. Committee members will cook a barbeque, sell dessert and raffle tickets to raise funds on the night.

### **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Nil.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

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### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**HAYLEY BARICH**  
**ACTING MANAGER COMMUNITY**  
**DEVELOPMENT**

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL**  
**SERVICES**

For enquiries, please contact Fiona Ray on 89300633 or email:  
f.ray@darwin.nt.gov.au

<b>COMMUNITY &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE/OPEN A</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9.2</b>
<b>REGULATORY SERVICES UPDATE AUGUST 2012</b>	
<b>REPORT No.: 12C0066 DN:MRG COMMON No.: 1330602</b>	<b>DATE: 17/9/2012</b>

**Presenter: Manager Regulatory Services, Dave Neall**

**Approved: A/General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Fiona Ray**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of activities undertaken within the Regulatory Services section during August, 2012.

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

#### **Goal**

7 Demonstrate Effective, Open and Responsible Governance

#### **Outcome**

7.1 Effective governance

#### **Key Strategies**

7.1.6 Develop contemporary management policies and by-laws

### **KEY ISSUES**

Parking Enforcement  
Animal Management  
Public Places

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

THAT Report Number 12C0066 DN:MRG entitled Regulatory Services Update August 2012, be received and noted.

### **BACKGROUND**

Monthly reports are provided to Council to provide information on the operational activities undertaken by Regulatory Services.

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SUBJECT: REGULATORY SERVICES UPDATE AUGUST 2012

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## **DISCUSSION**

### **CBD Parking**

Rangers regulated all areas of on street CBD parking and off street Council car parks. Rangers actively patrolled the Mall to ensure there were no breaches of the By-Laws.

Rangers continued to regulate parking in Zone A and B on Saturdays between the hours of 08.00am and 2.00pm. 2P (two hour) parking areas in zone A were actively patrolled to ensure parked vehicles did not exceed the 2 hour parking restriction.

Rangers continued to regulate parking enforcement in the CBD Plaza (Woolworths) car park.

### **Suburban Parking**

Supplementary daily patrols were conducted of Bradshaw Terrace, Casuarina, as a result of continuous reports of illegal parking activities in the area, more specifically the medium strip adjacent to Casuarina Shopping Centre. Rangers attended between 10am and 1pm, Monday-Friday. Forty-nine Infringement notices were issued and a large number of drivers were warned against parking on the nature strip in the centre of the road. In some cases infringement were issued to repeat offenders. Rangers will continue to patrol this area until the behaviour of drivers alters or redesign features are implemented. Rangers also patrolled Allwright Street, Casuarina, Cullen Bay, Parap, Nightcliff, Fannie Bay, Hibiscus, Rapid Creek, Alawa, Karama and Stuart Park. The Suburban Rangers regulated all disabled bays, timed zones, vehicles for sale in a public place and complaints received from the public relevant to Council By-laws.

The Suburban Ranger also regulated parking enforcement in the Casuarina Village Shopping Centre car park on request.

### **Generals**

Generals Rangers actioned notices for abandoned vehicles, long grass, litter complaints and a full range of By-Law offences.

### **Waterfront Precinct**

Two Rangers continued to regulate parking at the Waterfront Precinct during the week upon request and weekends. The Precinct was also patrolled early mornings for breaches of By-Law 103 Camping/Sleeping in a Public Place.

### **Public Places**

The aim of the public places program is to minimise breaches of By-Law 103, in particular persons camping/sleeping in public places and the obstruction of public



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facilities. Rangers also worked in conjunction with Police, the Immigration Department and Larrakia Nation.

Public Places Rangers continued to patrol the municipality for illegal camping and associated unlawful activities. Patrols were carried out at areas known to be popular amongst international travellers including; Mindil Beach, East Point, Darwin Waterfront and Council controlled car parks.

Two Council Rangers attended the CSNG (Community Safety Networking Group) which meets once a fortnight and shares information with other organisations in relation to illegitimate and unlawful activities.

### **Weekend Markets**

Rapid Creek, Parap and Nightcliff Markets continued to be patrolled every weekend. Patrol hours are between 9.00am and 1.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

### **Animal Management**

The City of Darwin Rangers in collaboration with the Gwalwa Daraniki Association and Animal Management in Rural and Remote and Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) worked with Indigenous community leaders to promote awareness of responsible pet ownership including health, desexing and recognition of Councils by-laws. Over the period of two days 12 animals were desexed, 36 animals were registered, 11 microchipped and all animals received parasite and worming treatment. Councils Animal Education Officer worked with children and parents providing animal education material and advice on general animal health and care. The efforts of Rangers were well received and provided an insight for newer Rangers in developing a better understanding of contemporary animal welfare issues in indigenous communities.

Rangers had a busy month responding to complaints an increase of the numbers of animals taken to the Pound facility. This increase has placed significant pressures on the facility. On at least two occasions the facility was overflowing with animals during the month. Cat activity has been slow this month, however of the numbers of cats that have been through the Pound a large percentage have been re homed through the PAWS program. In preparation for the wet season, Brigade Granule treatment was applied to the soil for tick control and traps were set in ceilings for rat prevention.

The Registration and Licensing Ranger has continued to address registration and licensing in the northern suburbs with great effect, many new registrations and licence applications for cats and dogs continue to be lodged with Council.

### **Animal Education**

The Animal Education Officer (AEO) is currently working on the last of the Animal Management merchandise such as postcards, fliers and posters, in accordance with

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the City of Darwin branding. Adopting a proactive approach, information packs are being developed to provide to the Defence Community Organisation in preparation for new defence personnel moving into the Darwin municipality. The packs will be introduced into the general welcome pack for Defence personnel and contains all the necessary information relating to City of Darwin By-laws, registrations and other relevant information for dog and cat owners.

The Animal Education Officer continues to assist Rangers with investigations that require dog behavioural knowledge and assessment to resolve ongoing barking issues.

As part of 'Pets' theme at the City Library in the month of September, a reading of the book '*Reggie the Cat and Neisha the Dog*' by L.Lelekov will take place during Story Time on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

### **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Nil.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**DAVE NEALL**  
**MANAGER REGULATORY**  
**SERVICES**

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL**  
**SERVICES**

For enquiries, please contact Fiona Ray on 8930 0633 or email:  
 f.ray@darwin.nt.gov.au.

<b>COMMUNITY &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE / OPEN A</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9.3</b>
<b>LIBRARIES INFORMATION UPDATE FOR AUGUST 2012</b>	
<b>REPORT No.: 12P0009 ED:jy</b>	<b>COMMON No.: 1943023</b>
<b>DATE: 17/9/2012</b>	

**Presenter: A/Manager Library Services, Emma Darby**

**Approved: A/General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Fiona Ray**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update of August 2012 detailing events and comments relating to City of Darwin Libraries (CODL).

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

#### **Goal**

2 Enhance Darwin's Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle

#### **Outcome**

2.2 Increase recreational, cultural and heritage experiences

#### **Key Strategies**

2.2.1 Enhance library facilities

### **KEY ISSUES**

This report provides an overview of library activities for the past month including the activities at the libraries during Seniors month.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

THAT Report Number 12P0009 ED:jy entitled, Libraries Information Update for August 2012, be received and noted.

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REPORT NUMBER: 12P009 ED:JY  
SUBJECT: LIBRARIES INFORMATION UPDATE FOR AUGUST, 2012

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## **BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this report is to provide a report detailing events and comments relating to City of Darwin Libraries and report on the Senior month activities.

## **DISCUSSION**

New full time library Assistant Jaclyn Roberts was appointed with a start date of 7<sup>th</sup> August, and three other library assistants moved work locations as part of the Library assistant rotations program. Library Assistant Jennifer Yuen is acting Library Secretary whilst Michele Donohue is on long service leave, and will move to the City Library in mid November. Judith Treloar and Karen Cocks will stay based at the City Library until mid November. The vacant part time Library Assistant L45 was filled by Sam Condon who is full time. His full time position will be filled as soon as possible. In addition, Shayde Douglas tendered her resignation with her last day 28<sup>th</sup> August. That job is being advertised internally and externally in the usual manner.

A staff breakfast in the Courtyard at Casuarina Library was attended by the Lord Mayor, Alderman Mitchell and Alderman Want de Rowe, as well as numerous Library staff. Casuarina Library is displaying recycled art by Aly de Groot and Calligraphy is being displayed in the community display cabinets.

Karama Library are hosting a work experience student from CDU Adult Migrant English Program for two weeks. A library student who is working at the Northern Territory Library is doing a project based work placement at Casuarina Library, reviewing and providing recommendations on the Classic Collection. Her assistance brings the number of volunteers at Casuarina Library to seven. Nightcliff Library currently has three volunteers. To try to streamline our volunteer program Manager City Library is writing up job descriptions for library Volunteers to go on the Volunteering SA NT website.

Sending deleted library items out to community organisations is working well now that the City library has an extensive list of places that want donations.

An advertisement was put in NT News and City of Darwin website about the provision of a Coffee Cart in Casuarina Courtyard. The Manager, Casuarina Library spoke with two providers and got some ideas and feedback although neither submitted a written expression of interest.

From September Karama Library will change how it offers internet access to the community, letting customers have a 15 minute session using the internet. This will be useful in enabling people who want a quick print or email check.

Manager, Casuarina Library and the Graduate librarian visited Casuarina Senior College Library to meet the staff, tour the facilities and discuss working on projects together.

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 SUBJECT: LIBRARIES INFORMATION UPDATE FOR AUGUST, 2012

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eBooks have been launched and are now live. \$7700 worth of resources begins our eBooks (downloadable) website through Overdrive (an American supplier). The eBooks can be loaded to devices such as ipads, iphones, tablets or eBooks readers such as kobo. A portion of this (\$4000) was included in our initial payment (\$12,000) last financial year. eBooks will be a valuable addition to our collection and the website has now been officially launched. We are the first library within the Northern Territory to offer this service to our customers and join a number of other Australian libraries to utilize Overdrive as an eBook supplier. All Library staff have been trained in using eBooks so are well equipped to help the community. Early feedback from the community has been positive.

The tender for the supply of Library resources has been finalised through the Northern Territory Library service. In total there were 8 organisations who submitted responses to the request. The successful companies were Dagenmont Pty Ltd T/a Peter Pal Library Supplier, Ebsco International and Bolinda Publishing.

Basic computer classes started to be offered at Casuarina. This once monthly class provide the community with a seamless digital literacy journey from basic computers, internet and email, to the more advanced internet club. The libraries are responsive to the community in what classes we offer, planning advanced lessons in facebook, YouTube and twitter in the upcoming Adult Learner's week.

The Libraries received some great feedback from customers this month. Some has been on our Facebook page and stated 'I'm new to Darwin and have visited the library twice this week. Have to say that the staff are fantastic, very helpful and friendly. Thank you, City Library. Anna Chambers'

Another letter said:

I thought I would write and tell you how much we appreciate the Darwin City library. We use it fairly regularly on a Saturday morning. The staff are always helpful and friendly. In addition, we regularly attend monthly book club meetings on Thursday evenings and find this informative as we consider new genres each time. Barbara is a good leader and allows and encourages us to discuss fully the book of the month. Refreshments after work are always appreciated as well. Dr. Peter Brown.

### **Children and Youth Services**

Children's Book Week was a big success this year with all staff jumping on board to deliver great customer, promotional, and fun service. Book Week was launched with each library doing their own individual and unique storytimes and displays to fit this year's theme of 'Champions Read'.

Each library celebrated this event on different days by hosting a special story time where they read books that were shortlisted as Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year. Story time in each library was followed by a Champions Read Medal activity which was a great success. Costumes brought characters from picture books alive and right off the pages as staff and children dressed up as their

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favourites. Displays, story times, costumes, and excellent staff all went together to make this year, the 67<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Children's Book Week a huge success.

**Teddy Bears Picnic Sunday 12 August:**

As part of the Darwin Festival, the Teddy Bear's Picnic is a regular event on the Libraries calendar. We hosted a Storytime at the Teddy's Bears Picnic on Georges Green at the Botanic Gardens.

**KAOS:**

This month's KAOS featured badge making and was attended by 17 local young people.

All regular activities such as babes n books, story times, book clubs for young people and school tours and groups continued as normal with the usual great attendance and feedback.

### **Reading Hour**

Despite blanket promotion, the Saturday evening opening of all four libraries did not draw a large crowd except the City Library who attracted people who were attending the nearby Darwin Festival. At the City Library there was a treasure scavenger hunt and face painting for kids, quizzes and live music for adults and the NT elections coverage was streamed live. 182 people attended, approximately two thirds of them children.

To tie in with NYR and the Reading Hour, 3 City of Darwin staff members have completed literary based questions for the Draonflyer 'Meet your staff' section.

### **Training**

Library Trainee is enrolled in semester 2 for Certificate 3 Library & Information Studies and three team members completed an Introduction to InDesign at the Darwin Computer Academy 20 - 22 August. Other training that was undertaken included an online Web 2.0 course delivered through TAFE NSW & ALIA, Overdrive downloadable eBooks, general occupancy training, emergency evacuations and temporary membership.

### **Displays and promotions**

Exposure Productions produced a top quality 30 second generic library advertisement with superimposed text promoting the Reading Hour shown on both the Nine Network and Channel 7 in the two weeks prior to August 25. The advert was also posted on social media.

The City of Darwin Libraries Electronic Newsletter was emailed out to 4218 subscribers. The newsletter promotes our coming events and new resources added to the libraries' collections. Customers can book online to attend library events.

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2000 postcards promoting The Reading Hour were distributed throughout Darwin to places such as tourist accommodation, cafes, art galleries as well as to our library customers. We used an external distribution company.

The large National Year of Reading banner on the outside wall of the Civic Centre was put back up in time for Darwin Festival. The Libraries social media continues to be a valuable addition to our communications. Facebook continues to have moderate traffic and currently 296 'likes'.

### **Seniors Month**

Another extremely successful Seniors Month with all events fully booked.

**Photography:** This was promoted as 'learn how to use your digital camera to its full potential' and proved so popular that another session was arranged to accommodate those who missed out.

**Tai Chi:** The Malak Community Hall was a good venue for this activity as there is plenty of room and the kitchen and bathroom facilities are more than adequate. Many participants were interested in Council's Healthy Darwin program which was promoted through the event.

**An Introduction to Art with Jasmine Jan:** There were 2 separate sessions – pen & ink and watercolours – for which we received a grant from the NT Government. Jasmine is a very personable and professional tutor and is available should we decide to present more art instruction throughout the year.

**eBooks:** Library staff presented an informative session to 34 attentive seniors about the introduction of eBooks to our libraries and demonstrated several different eReaders. Those who missed out were encouraged to register for a further session to be held during Adult Learners Week.

**An evening at the Deckchair:** 145 seniors booked and 130 actually attended - which is a good result. We ended up with a full house including paying customers. Alderman Mitchell again this year welcomed everyone, gave the libraries a good wrap and promoted upcoming Council events including Adult Learners Week. Guests were offered tea, coffee and snacks before settling down to watch The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel.

All events were well attended and many compliments have been received. It's interesting to see people lining up to try an activity they often wouldn't consider outside the Seniors Month program.

### **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Nil

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

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### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**EMMA DARBY**  
**A/MANAGER LIBRARY**  
**SERVICES**

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL**  
**SERVICES**

For enquiries, please contact John Banks on 89300633 or email:  
j.banks@darwin.nt.gov.au.



<b>COMMUNITY &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE / OPEN A</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9.4</b>
<b>LIVEABILITY UPDATE – AUGUST 2012</b>	
<b>REPORT No.: 12C0071 FR:mrg COMMON No.: 2258931</b>	<b>DATE: 17/09/2012</b>

**Presenter:** A/General Manager Community and Cultural Services, Fiona Ray

**Approved:** A/General Manager Community and Cultural Services, Fiona Ray

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of activities undertaken within the Liveability Section during August 2012.

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

#### **Goal**

2 Enhance Darwin's Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle

#### **Outcome**

2.2 Increase recreational, cultural and heritage experiences

2.3 Promote family friendly and healthy activities.

### **KEY ISSUES**

- Policy and Research
- Healthy Darwin
- Recreation
- Swimming Pools

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

THAT Report Number 12C0071 FR:mrg entitled, Liveability Update for August, 2012 be received and noted.

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 REPORT NUMBER: Report No. 12C0071 FR:mrg  
 SUBJECT: LIVEABILITY UPDATE – AUGUST 2012

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## **BACKGROUND:**

Monthly activity reports are provided to Council to raise issues of strategic and policy interest, major projects and to share information on operational activities being undertaken across the section.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Education Cross Sector Planning Committee**

The Department of Education and Training (DET) has established the Education Cross Sector Planning Committee to plan for enrolment growth in response to the Greater Darwin Plan 2012. The Plan provides a framework to achieve the vision of *Territory 2030* and includes population projections through to 2025.

Subject to economic growth occurring at the anticipated rate and a predicted high growth scenario, population scenarios include:

- Additional 25 000 people living in Darwin CBD and the Northern Suburbs.
- Palmerston could have a population of 45 000, approximately 15 000 increase from 2010.
- Litchfield could have a population approaching 30 000 with increased activity around Coolalinga, Humpty Doo, Noonamah and Berry Springs, approximately 10 000 increase from 2010.
- The new city of Weddell will have an initial population of 6000 by 2020 which could grow to 12 000 by 2025. Full capacity would be 50 000.

Council's representative on the Committee is Fiona Ray, Manager Liveability. At the meeting of 15 August, it was identified that school enrolments in the inner Darwin area exceeded anticipated enrolments. It was also noted that many of the students were from CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) backgrounds with a number of families in Darwin on 457 working visas.

The figures from DET in conjunction with the recently released 2011 Census data, provides valuable information on the changing face of the community to inform service and infrastructure planning and delivery.

### **China Town Secure Bike Parking**

The secure bike parking Pod is installed in the China Town Car Park. A fee proposal will be considered by Council and access to the 10 places will be advertised for 28 days. If interest exceeds the number of spaces available a ballot will be held.

### **Super Tuesday September 4, 2012**

Preparation for the 2012 commuter cyclist count was completed with all count sites taken up two weeks prior to the Day. Each counter provides their data to the Bicycle Network for compilation in a report for anticipated release in November 2012.

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## **Recreation Services**

### **Swimming Pools**

The Pool income and attendance figures are provided for Council's information each month. However care needs to be taken in analysing the data as it provides a somewhat incomplete picture.

For example the June attendance and income data for Casuarina Pool, identified lower numbers of swimmers at Casuarina but higher income relative to the other pools. This occurred because several large invoices from previous months were paid in June. Casuarina Pool is popular for school carnivals however the numbers of children attending the Pool are blocked as one visit. Efforts are underway to provide a more complete picture of pool attendance and clarity as to income. Casuarina Pool in particular would appear to have understated usage.

<b>Patron Attendance</b>					<b>Revenue</b>			
	<b>Para p</b>	<b>Cas.</b>	<b>N'Cliff</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Parap</b>	<b>Cas.</b>	<b>N'Cliff</b>	<b>Total</b>
July 12	1614	1213	2766	<b>5593</b>	\$8,558	\$5,622	\$12,320	<b>\$26,501</b>
July 11	3005	2063	3513	<b>8581</b>	\$10,715	\$5,964	\$11,511	<b>\$28,190</b>
June 12	2833	2233	3452	<b>8518</b>	\$9,938	\$14,018	\$11,536	<b>\$35,493</b>

The July 2012 monthly summary indicates that pool attendance and revenue were down on both the previous month (June 2012) and the same month last year (July 2011). The Pools Contractor attributes this to the drop in water temperature and the unusually long and cold Dry Season.

During this quiet time, staff at each of the pools have undertaken general maintenance and gardening works to maintain a high standard of presentation and safety at each venue.

Council's Fun In The Parks school holiday program was held at Casuarina Swimming Pool on 2 July.

Recreation officers are currently investigating options regarding solar heating and thermal pool blankets.

### **Ovals**

Permission was sought and granted for the use of Gardens Oval One to scatter the ashes of David Nason on 3 August. David was a long-time Darwin journalist who passed away late last year. During 1970-1980, he was involved in playing football in Darwin and Gardens Oval was known to hold special memories for him. A group of 12 people including relatives from the United States visited Darwin for the memorial event.

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Gardens Oval Two was utilised for a fundraiser Gaelic Rules football match on 5 August. This was to raise money for the repatriation of the body of the Irish worker killed in a gas explosion earlier this year in Parap. This was organised by Banks Bulldogs Football Club.

Applications were received from AFL-NT and approved for pre-season training at Gardens Oval One and Jingili Oval from 20 August – 28 September.

**Nakara Oval** will be undergoing extensive irrigation and resurfacing works at the start of September for approximately two weeks. This will be followed by a period of non-use for formalised training (estimated 4-6 weeks and will be gauged on a daily basis) as there will be some subsidence of the soil in the areas where trenches will be dug and to allow the new turf to establish itself.

Prior to these works being scheduled, the user group was contacted to investigate their willingness to move training to another oval, allowing this project to commence at the Turf team's preferred time. The club was extremely happy that this project was going ahead – *"Thanks for the heads up. We've been waiting for this work for years so we're keen for it to proceed as soon as practicable."* – and arranged alternative training venues within a week. Nakara Oval will still be accessible for the general public.

**Bagot Oval** will also undergo extensive irrigation and resurfacing works. The scope of works will include the returf of some areas of the oval's surface and the goal mouths, spray the oval for weed control, aerate, slice, verti-mow, reseed areas, fertilise and top dress certain areas of the oval's surface.

Most of these major works are scheduled to happen through the month of October, and as per the schedule and weather permitting, there would be ongoing smaller works, weed control, reseeding (grass) and establishment periods, top dressing, mowing with the right equipment at the right establishment times, to encourage best growth of the grass. The oval will be in excellent condition for the upcoming Dry Season.

Again, prior to this project's commencement, the peak body and Club were contacted to enable them to revise plans for Wet Season training or competition considered for this venue over this period. Their response: *"We certainly support the maintenance being done and will accommodate this wherever possible."*

Wet Season Oval Allocations application packs were circulated to the relevant peak bodies in late August in preparation for the change of use on October 01. It has also been loaded onto the City of Darwin website on the Sporting Ovals webpage.

#### **Malak Half Basketball Court**

Works commenced in Holzerland Park, Malak on 27 August for the construction of a basketball half court. Provision of this facility has been in response to work undertaken by Waters Ward Aldermen, members of Malak's youth community and local groups to enhance community access to free recreation facilities. The court will

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comprise a hard surface, line marking and basketball hoop for informal play. A water bubbler is included in the project works.

Construction work is expected to be completed by end of September. Access to the existing playground will not be disrupted.

### **Healthy Darwin**

Throughout August Healthy Darwin has registered 35 new low income earners to the general program (total members now 161). Additionally, during August 200-230 community members participated in our special group programs and community events. Community Mini Health Checks continued at 3 community events with 48 community members receiving the free checks by the Casuarina Community Health team.

Healthy Darwin supported and took part in three community events throughout August. A free health check and seated massage was provided for participants attending the Health and Wellbeing Day at Jingili Water Gardens during Seniors Month. The day was also an opportunity to promote Healthy Darwin activities targeted at seniors with fifteen new people signing up to the program on the day.

A Health and Wellbeing Day was held at Day to Day Living (a mental health drop in service) in Rapid Creek. The day included free health checks, fitness clothing and footwear giveaways.

The final event was held in partnership with the Hoops for Health Aboriginal Corporation at Leanyer Water Park. The event brought together local and international role models, including Anthony Mundine and Nova Peris, to promote a message of eating good food and getting active. The event was attended by around 180 community members, with the majority coming from the Indigenous population. Healthy Darwin provided free health checks and a healthy barbecue dinner.



*One of the fantastic tricks at Hoops for Health      Lord Mayor and the Karama cooking gang*

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The Karama Cooking and Gardening program has continued throughout August with twenty five community members participating in the program. The group was lucky enough to enjoy a visit from the Lord Mayor to judge the healthy 'cook-off' in week four.

The second eight week HEAL (Healthy Eating Activity and Lifestyle) Program commenced in August. Facilitated through BodyfitNT, the program has eleven registered participants and is being held at the Casuarina Library Meeting Room.

Participation in the Healthy Moves group classes has grown throughout August with twenty six participating in the seniors and women's classes. Additionally, the subsidised Healthy Mix Tai Chi classes have been popular with fourteen members attending regularly on a weekly basis.

The second edition of the Live Well quarterly newsletter was sent out to Healthy Darwin members. The newsletter provides an update on upcoming events, member profiles and general health and wellbeing information.

Healthy Darwin's work with special groups continues with the establishment of a refugee soccer group. Working with Melaleuca Refugee Centre we have commenced a trial of a weekly informal soccer game with male refugees. The aim of the group is to provide an opportunity for the men to get outside and get active as well as build social connections. The program is also working with Melaleuca and the Red Cross NT to develop a booklet for volunteers supporting newly arrived refugees. The guide is designed to highlight some health messages, identify cultural differences that may arise, suggest healthy activities and provide information on local outdoor spaces and facilities. The Healthy Darwin program also continues to support the Bagot Women's group, Danila Dilba Seniors group and the Day to Day Living Centre.

The second Healthy Darwin Reference Group Meeting was held in the reporting period. The group consists of government and community organisations providing advice and feedback on program delivery and planning.

Planned events and activities for the coming months include:

- Health Checks at Centrelink Casuarina
- Beginners Yoga 6 week Course (Starting October 16)
- Walking Groups around Malak and Karama – support by COD rangers to talk about safety in the area (September 13)
- Basic Bike Skills Cycling workshop (September 20)
- Weekly beginners cycling group

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### **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Nil

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES**

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f.ray@darwin.nt.gov.au.

<b>COMMUNITY &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE / OPEN A</b>		<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9.5</b>
<b>LIBRARY OPERATIONAL FUNDING</b>		
<b>REPORT No.: 12P0008 KC:md</b>	<b>COMMON No.: 1943023</b>	<b>DATE: 17/9/2012</b>

**Presenter: Manager Library Services, Karen Conway**

**Approved: A/General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Fiona Ray**

### **PURPOSE**

This purpose of this report is to provide the current status of operational funding from the Northern Territory Government for public libraries.

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

#### **Goal**

2 Enhance Darwin's Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle

#### **Outcome**

2.2 Increase recreational, cultural and heritage experiences

#### **Key Strategies**

2.2.1 Enhance library facilities

### **KEY ISSUES**

This report provides information on the current status of operational funding from the Northern Territory Government for public libraries.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

THAT Report Number 12P0008 entitled, Library Operational Funding be received and noted.



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 REPORT NUMBER: 12P0006 KC:MD  
 SUBJECT: LIBRARY OPERATIONAL FUNDING

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## **BACKGROUND**

The Northern Territory Government provides operational funding to the City of Darwin for the provision of core library services.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Council has received \$1,421,934 (ex GST) as the Libraries operational grant for 2012/13. These funds are to assist in the provision of core public library services. This years grant is an increase of \$47,043 from the previous year.

The Public Library Funding Agreement 2008-9 to 2010-11 has been extended for a further year and will now expire on 30 June 2013.

## **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Nil

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The offer is an increase of \$47,043 over and above what Council has budgeted for this financial year.

## **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**KAREN CONWAY**  
**MANAGER LIBRARY SERVICES**

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL**  
**SERVICES**

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 f.ray@darwin.nt.gov.au.

<b>COMMUNITY &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE/OPEN A</b>		<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9.6</b>
<b>MINUTES DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAC) MEETING - 23 AUGUST 2012</b>		
<b>REPORT No.: 12C0070 SJ:es</b>	<b>COMMON No.: 2304280</b>	<b>DATE: 17/09/2012</b>

**Presenter:** Community Services Officer, Sheree Jeeves

**Approved:** A/General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Fiona Ray

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting of 23 August 2012 (**Attachment A**) and details of the recommendations for Council's consideration.

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the City of Darwin as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

#### **Goal**

5 Facilitate and Maintain a Cohesive Community

#### **Outcome**

5.1 Facilitate community access and inclusion

#### **Key Strategies**

5.1.3 Improve access for people with disabilities

### **KEY ISSUES**

The members attending the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting of 23 August 2012 recommended the minutes be presented to the Community and Cultural Services Committee for endorsement of recommendations.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

- A. THAT Report Number 12C0070 SJ:es entitled Minutes Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting - 23 August 2012, be received and noted.
- B. THAT the Disability Advisory Committee recommends that City of Darwin contribute \$1000 to the final year of the *Every Australian Counts* campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

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 REPORT NUMBER: 12C0070 SJ:es  
 SUBJECT: MINUTES DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 23 AUGUST 2012

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## **BACKGROUND**

### **7 Request for Support for a National Disability Insurance Scheme**

Report No. 11C0095 NM:kl (10/08/11) Common No. 1848460

(Mitchell/Marrone)

A. THAT Report Number 11C0095 entitled, Request for Support for a National Disability Insurance Scheme, be received and noted.

B. THAT Darwin City Council register its in principle support for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) via the NDIS website.

C. THAT Darwin City Council pledge financial support to the value of \$1,000.00 towards the support for the introduction of a National Disability Insurance Scheme after seeking clarification from Somerville in relation to whether funding is still required.

DECISION NO.20\4320

(30/08/11)

Carried: General Consent

## **DISCUSSION**

The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) met on 23 August and key items discussed included Disability Awareness Week, Community Access Plan 2012 – 2017 and the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

The Committee discussed a request from National Disability Services (NDS) to contribute financial support to the *Every Australian Counts* campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

City of Darwin received a letter from NDS recognising the financial contribution from the City of Darwin last year towards the campaign. NDS requested that Council contribute funds again this year to the final year of the *Every Australian Counts* campaign. Council contributed \$1000 last year.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a plan to create a no-fault insurance scheme for everyone who has, or acquires, a significant disability. The proposed NDIS would provide a secure and consistent pool of funds for disability services and would support essential care, therapy, aids, equipment, home modifications and access to community, education and training.

The Disability Advisory Committee members expressed support for the National Disability Insurance Scheme and for Council to contribute \$1000 to the final year of the campaign.

## **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Members of the Disability Advisory Committee.

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 REPORT NUMBER: 12C0070 SJ:es  
 SUBJECT: MINUTES DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 23 AUGUST  
 2012

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### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Disability Advisory Committee assists Council meet the objectives of its Community Access Plan and to consider and provide effective disabled access throughout the municipality.

### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Funds to the amount of \$1,000 for Council to support the *Every Australian Counts* campaign for the introduction of the NDIS are identified within the current Disability Access Budget 05/331062/300.

### **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Not pertinent to this report.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not pertinent to this report.

### **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**SHEREE JEEVES**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
**OFFICER**

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL**  
**SERVICES**

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**Attachment A: Minutes of the Disability Advisory Committee Meeting 23  
 August 2012**



**MINUTES**  
**DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
 2.00 - 3.30pm, Thursday 23 August 2012  
 Casuarina Library Meeting Room  
 Bradshaw Terrace, Casuarina

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**1. PRESENT**

Alderman Allan Mitchell	Acting Chair, Elected Member, City of Darwin
Lynne Strathie	Community Representative
Judy Hansen	Community Representative
Kerrie-Ann Parsons	Community Representative
Adrian Riessen	Community Representative
David Cash	Infrastructure Dept, City of Darwin
Nerida Child Dimasi	Community & Cultural Services, City of Darwin
Sheree Jeeves	Community & Cultural Services, City of Darwin

**2. APOLOGIES**

Peter Mahony	Community Representative
Rosemary Burkitt	Community Representative
Deborah Bampton	Community Representative
Debb Lovett	Community Representative
Martin Blakemore	Community Representative
Emma Fraser	Community Representative
Alasdair McGregor	Specialist Representative
Pero Peric	Specialist Representative
Armando Padovan	Specialist Representative

**3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Appointment of Chairperson was deferred to the next Disability Advisory Committee due to the lack of a quorum.

**4. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON**

Appointment of Deputy Chairperson was deferred to the next Disability Advisory Committee due to the lack of a quorum.

**5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None declared.

**6. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES OF 21 JUNE 2012**

Minutes from the meeting held 21 June 2012 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Noted: Lynne Strathie

## **7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES 21 JUNE 2012**

### **7.1 RECHARGE Scheme update**

The RECHARGE Scheme currently operates throughout Victoria and provides an opportunity for electric scooters and wheelchairs to be recharged at recharge stations whilst their users are out and about in the community. The City of Darwin has been invited to be a pilot area for a national rollout of the Scheme. Sheree advised that she will gather all of the information from the RECHARGE Scheme operators in Victoria and present it at the next DAC meeting for consideration.

### **7.2 Disability Access Budget**

Sheree informed members that the Disability Access Budget consists of \$50,000 each financial year. There has not been any money spent from the 2012/13 budget to date and therefore it has the full \$50,000.

### **7.3 Update on Nightcliff Pool Hoist**

Dave Cash reported that the Nightcliff Pool Hoist is scheduled to be installed by mid September 2012.

## **8. ACCESS ACTION LIST**

### **8.1 Lack of Pedestrian Access at Vanderlin Drive, Karama – update on status of signage issue rectification**

Pero Peric was to report on this agenda item, therefore it was deferred until the next meeting.

## **9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **9.1 Update on Community Access Plan 2012-2017**

Nerida informed members that the Community Action Plan 2012-2017 has been endorsed by Council, hard copies have been printed and it is available on Council's website. Nerida explained that there have only been 100 hard copies printed to encourage people to use the online version. Nerida recently received the large print version of the Plan which will be available on Council's website soon for people who are visually impaired. An MP3 version is currently being produced, which will be made available on Council's website once complete.

### **9.2 Update on program of activities for Disability Awareness Week**

Sheree distributed the final poster for Disability Awareness Week which has the program of events. Discussion was held around the proceedings for the Deckchair Cinema event; usually the Chair of DAC makes a speech at this event, however DAC will not have elected a Chair by then. Members decided that Lynne Strathie should fill this role as the most recent Chairperson.

#### **ACTION:**

Lynne Strathie to make a speech at the Disability Awareness Week Deckchair event on behalf of DAC.

### **9.3 Disability Access Complaints Information Sheet**

Members received the information sheet from the Australian Human Rights Commission regarding the relevant body to contact for complaints about access to premises.

### **9.4 Update on Cavenagh Street Upgrade**

Dave Cash reported that the Cavenagh Street Upgrade is progressing to schedule. He informed members that for the duration of the project public buses have been re-routed from Cavenagh St to Smith St. This was deemed the most appropriate alternative bus route by the NT Government's Public Transport Division. Two temporary bus stops have been set up on Smith St to accommodate the change. There has also been a change to the taxi rank, with a temporary one set up on Smith St (opposite Peel St) to replace the existing taxi rank on Cavenagh St. Allan Mitchell commented that he has received positive feedback in regards to the changes to the public buses.

### **9.5 Update on Fishing Platform at Nightcliff**

Sheree reported that work has commenced on the fishing platform at Nightcliff.

### **9.6 National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**

Sheree received a letter from National Disability Services (NDS) recognising the contribution from the City of Darwin last year towards the *Every Australian Counts* campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme. NDS requested that Council contribute funds again this year to the final year of the campaign. Council contributed \$1000 last year to the campaign. All members expressed support for this initiative and for Council to contribute \$1000 to the campaign from the Disability Access Budget.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Disability Advisory Committee recommends that City of Darwin contribute \$1000 to the final year of the *Every Australian Counts* campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Due to a Quorum not being achieved this recommendation will be presented to the Community and Cultural Services Committee to endorse.

### **9.7 Any other business**

Dave Cash informed members that the tennis court on the corner of Jacaranda and Aralia St in Nightcliff is being resurfaced. Part of the works will include a disabled parking bay and disabled access.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Date:** 18 October 2012

**Time:** 2.00pm - 3.30pm

**Venue:** Casuarina Library Meeting Room  
Bradshaw Terrace, Casuarina

## **11. MEETING CLOSED**

Meeting closed at 3:15pm.

**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEE/OPEN A**

**AGENDA ITEM: 9.7**

**USER CHARGE – ACCESS TO BICYCLE FACILITY (THE POD) – CHINA TOWN CAR  
PARK**

**REPORT No.: 12C0072 FR:mrg COMMON No.: 2249390**

**DATE: 17/9/2012**

**Presenter: A/General Manager Community and Cultural Services,  
Fiona Ray**

**Approved: A/General Manager Community and Cultural Services,  
Fiona Ray**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to propose a user charge for access to the secure bicycle facility (the Pod) in the China Town Car Park and an associated process to advertise and allocate the 10 cycle racks.

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the ‘Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond’:-

**Goal**

2 Enhance Darwin’s Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle

**Outcome**

2.2 Increase recreational, cultural and heritage experiences

**Key Strategies**

2.2.3 Provide facilities to encourage safe cycling and walking

**KEY ISSUES**

A secure bicycle facility containing 10 racks, 1 shower and 12 lockers has been installed in the China Town car park in the space occupied by one car parking bay.

The income for one car parking bay is \$1220 (inclusive of GST) per annum. A charge of \$100 per annum, per cyclist is proposed to maintain the income stream.

Application to access the facility will be invited through a multi media campaign. It is proposed that 28 days will be allowed for applications to be received. At the end of that time, if more applications are received than spaces available, a ballot will be undertaken.



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 REPORT NUMBER: 12C0072 FR:mrg  
 SUBJECT: USER CHARGE – ACCESS TO BICYCLE FACILITY (THE POD) – CHINA TOWN CAR PARK

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

- A. THAT report number 12C0072 FR:mrg entitled, User Charge – Access To Bicycle Facility (The Pod) – China Town Car Park be received and noted.
- B. THAT a fee of \$100 per annum or part thereof be charged per key tag for use of the bicycle facility (The Pod) at China Town Car Park.
- C. THAT applications to access the bicycle facility (The Pod) at China Town Car Park be advertised for a period of 28 days.
- D. THAT if more than 10 applications are received to access the bicycle facility (The Pod) at China Town Car Park, a ballot will be held to allocate the key tags.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Darwin has a comparatively high number of people commuting to work by bicycle, 3.2% versus the national average of 1.6% (Method of Travel to Work Census 2006). Method of Travel to Work statistics for the 2011 Census are scheduled to be released later this year and will be reviewed when they become available.

The need to provide improved end of trip facilities has been raised in various workshops and consultations with cyclists, Council and the Northern Territory Government. The Review of the Greater Darwin Cycle Path and most recently the Draft Bike Lanes Feasibility Study identified secure bicycle parking as a necessary addition to cycle infrastructure in Central Darwin.

**Table 1. Greater Darwin journey to work mode (%) – 2006 Census**

<b>City</b>	<b>Motor Vehicle</b>	<b>Public Transport</b>	<b>Cycled</b>	<b>Walked</b>
Adelaide	84.9%	10.4%	1.5%	3.2%
Brisbane	80.8%	14.5%	1.1%	3.7%
Canberra	84.2%	8.3%	2.5%	5.0%
<b>Darwin</b>	<b>85.9%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
Hobart	84.3%	7.0%	1.1%	7.6%
Melbourne	80.5%	14.5%	1.3%	3.6%
Perth	85.3%	10.8%	1.2%	2.7%
Sydney	72.5%	21.9%	0.7%	5.0%
<b>Average</b>	<b>82.3%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>

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SUBJECT: USER CHARGE – ACCESS TO BICYCLE FACILITY (THE POD) – CHINA  
TOWN CAR PARK

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## **DISCUSSION**

A proposed charge of \$100 per year equates to \$2.00 per week. This nominal amount also includes access to a shower and lockers.

The amount is reasonable relative to charges imposed nationally for comparable facilities, ranging from \$2 - \$6 dollars per day.

## **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

In preparing this Report the following parties were consulted:

Chief Officers Group

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The fee will largely recoup car parking revenue for one car space.

## **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES**

For enquiries, please contact Fiona Ray on 89300404 or email:  
f.ray@darwin.nt.gov.au.

**OPEN SECTION**

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CSC9\7

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Monday, 17 September, 2012**10 SISTER CITIES COMMUNITY COMMITTEE ITEMS****10.1 INFORMATION ITEMS**

Nil

**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEE/OPEN A**

**AGENDA ITEM: 10.2.1**

**REQUEST FOR SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DARWIN AND HORSHAM,  
AUSTRALIA; LAUNCESTON, AUSTRALIA; TARPON SPRINGS, UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA, KABANKALAN, THE PHILIPPINES**

**REPORT No.: 12C0069 HB:es**

**COMMON No.: 2280882**

**DATE: 17/09/2012**

**Presenter: Senior Community Development Officer - Liveability, Hayley Barich**

**Approved: A/General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Fiona Ray**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to assess requests received by Council for establishment of Sister City links between Darwin and

- Horsham, Australia
- Launceston, Australia
- Tarpon Springs, United States of America
- Kabankalan, The Philippines

This report presents recommendations for Councils consideration.

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

**Goal**

6 Promote Brand Darwin

**Outcome**

6.2 Promote our Darwin city

**Key Strategies**

6.2.4 Strengthen international relationships through Sister Cities and other activities

**KEY ISSUES**

- Sister Cities policy for establishment of new links
- Assessment against sister cities selection criteria
- Volume of Sister City requests and alignment with the Sister Cities program.

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. THAT Report Number 12C0069 HB:es entitled Request For Sister City Relationship Between Darwin And Horsham, Australia; Launceston, Australia; Tarpon Springs, United States Of America; Kabankalan, The Philippines, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council support in principal the establishment of a ongoing relationship with Horsham Rural City Council, Victoria based on shared military history, the Darwin Defenders and the Bombing of Darwin commemorations.
- C. THAT Council in principal support Mr Robert Dusting's endeavour to strengthen relationships between Launceston and Darwin and decline the establishment of a formal Sister City relationship.
- D. THAT Council decline the request to establish a Sister City relationship with Tarpon Springs, United States of America.
- E. THAT Council defer all Sister and Friendship City requests until the Sister Cities program has been reviewed.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

#### **Decision No. 21\277 (17/07/12)**

The Acting Lord Mayor advised that an invitation from the Honorary Consulate of Kabankalan City was received to investigate a possible Friendship agreement. Unfortunately no Member present was able to travel at such short notice.

#### **Decision No. 20\4820 (28/02/12)**

- A. THAT Report Number 12C0012 HB:es entitled Request for Sister City Relationship Between Darwin and Dongfang, PR China; Yeosu, Republic of Korea; Davao, Philippines; and Tralee, Republic of Ireland, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council seek affirmation from the Haikou Office of Foreign Affairs for the establishment of a Friendship Agreement with Dongfang, Peoples Republic of China, based on the Gull Force memorial at Lao Ou.

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Then

- A. THAT Council establish a Friendship Agreement with Dongfang, Peoples Republic of China, based on the Gull Force memorial at Lao Ou.
- B. THAT Council decline the invitation to establish a sister city relationship with Yeosu, Republic of Korea.
- C. THAT Council decline the request to establish a Sister City relationship with Davao, The Philippines.
- D. THAT Council establish a Friendship Agreement with Tralee, Republic of Ireland, formally acknowledging Council's regard for hosting the Rose of Tralee.

**Decision No. 20\4632 (29/11/11)**

- A. THAT Report Number 11C0126 HB:es entitled, Friendship Link – Investigation of Link between Darwin, Australia and Bali, Indonesia September 2011, be received and noted.
- B. THAT the friendship link is not pursued as it does not fall within the guidelines of a Friendship/Sister City relationship.

**Decision No. 20\2282 (24/11/09)**

- A. THAT Report Number 09c0189 entitled, Request to Establish Sister City Relationship with Darwin – City of Yeosu, Republic of Korea, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council explore the possibility of establishing a Sister City Relationship with the city of Yeosu, Republic of Korea, and a further report be prepared.

**Decision No. 20\2283 (24/11/09)**

- A. THAT report Number 09C0159 entitled, Sister Cities Community Committee Minutes for Meetings held in September 2009 – with Recommendations, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council further explore the request to establish a friendship agreement with Dongfang city, Hainan Peoples Republic of China, in view of historic military ties with the region.
- C. THAT establishment of the Chinese Garden be referred back to the Haikou Sister City Community Committee for further consideration, in view of cost estimates.

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- D. THAT Council write to the Haikou Foreign Affairs Office to seek their assistance and support for the students participating in the Charles Darwin University Chinese In-Country language Program being held in Haikou between 23 November to 18 December 2009.
- E. THAT a maximum amount of \$500 be provided to host an event in Haikou, on behalf of Council for the participants of the Chinese In-Country Program at Charles Darwin university.

**Decision No. 20\2166 (27/10/09)**

- A. THAT Report Number 09C0155 entitled, Requests to Establish Sister Cities Friendship Agreements with Darwin – Santa Cruz Galapagos, Ecuador; Dongfang, People’s Republic of China; Syria; Meizhou, People’s Republic of China; Saumlaki, Indonesia; Aridagawa-Cho, Japan, be received and noted.
- B. THAT as the Sister Cities Program continues to experience high demands on resources, and numerous requests for equally viable cities for affiliations, a relationship not be formed with Syria at this time.
- C. THAT Council decline the request to sign the Memorandum of Understanding dated 24 July 2007 with the City of Saumlaki, West South East Maluku Province, Indonesia.
- D. THAT as the Sister Cities Program continues to experience high demand on resources, and numerous requests for equally viable cities for affiliations, a relationship not be formed with Meizhou in Guangdong Province in the Peoples Republic of China.
- E. THAT in view of the significance of the location and a multitude of shared characteristics, it is recommended that a possible relationship continue to be explored with Gobierno Municipal de Santa Cruz in Galapagos-Ecuador.
- F. THAT the Lord Mayor donate an amount of \$500 in-kind to Dripstone Middle School in support of the Aridagawa-Cho/Darwin Student Exchange.

**Decision No. 19\1961 (30/08/05)**

- A. THAT Report Number 05C0087 JS:mrg entitled Status On New And Amended Sister City Relationships – Saumlaki, Milikapiti and Kabankalan, be received and noted.
- B. THAT both Darwin City Council and Tiwi Islands Local Government sign the original copy of the new Sister City agreement at the next suitable occasion.

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- C. THAT as the Sister Cities Program continues to experience high demand on resources, and numerous requests for equally viable cities for affiliations, a relationship not be formed with Kabankalan at this time.

**Decision No. 18\5911 (28/10/03)**

- A. THAT Report Number 03C0400 LMG:kl entitled, Requests for New Sister City Relationship, be received and noted.
- B. THAT new requests only be considered in line with program resources, aims and budget.
- C. THAT the policy for assessment of Sister City relations and friendship agreements be reviewed.

**Decision No. 18\5190 (12/06/03)**

An assessment criteria for the formation of Sister Cities relationships was adopted by the Sister Cities Management Committee in June 2003. The criteria is described below for reference and specifies the following:

THAT the Committee resolve under delegated authority:-

- A. THAT Report Number 03C215 LMG:kl entitled Sister City Assessment Criteria, be received and noted.
- B. THAT a two-tier level of affiliations with cities and towns seeking Sister City status with Darwin be adopted:
- i. The existing Sister City relationship which provides a formal agreement to develop and maintain a substantive program with mutual long-term benefits.
  - ii. A 'friendship' relationship which would consist of a less formal arrangement with less administrative and financial expectation, which may be appropriate in meeting short term needs and supporting programs run by other sections of the community.
- C. THAT prior to a sister city relationship agreement being formalised, the two cities establishing an affiliation enter into a friendship relationship to explore the potential benefits.

and FURTHER THAT the friendship agreement be reviewed on an annual basis at which time any decision to upgrade the affiliation to that



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of a Sister City relationship based on actual program outcomes or to discontinue the affiliation, may be made.

- D. THAT the consideration of new Sister Cities be based on an assessment of historical links and cultural and social, economic and educational benefits for the city which may flow from the identified relationship.
- E. THAT existing relationships be reviewed every five years based on the above criteria to ensure relevance in view of global change and to ensure that the original objectives are still appropriate and achievable.
- F. THAT Sister City relationships may be re-classified to become friendship links if sustainability it no longer a viable reality.
- G. THAT the following factors be considered in choosing or reviewing a Sister City:

General:

1. Population and demographics (nationals of one Sister City residing in the other)
2. Geographic location and assets (eg Port, Frontier)
3. Ease of access
4. Comparison of key industries
5. Existing linkages (eg student exchanges)
6. Relevance to local community
7. History of relations and/or cooperation in political, economic, commercial and cultural fields

Economic:

1. Similar economic conditions
2. Trade and investment climates and opportunities
3. Tourism potential's

Social:

1. Similar social infrastructure and issues
2. Opportunity for broad based activity
3. People to people interest, energy and commitment

Educational:

1. Across economic, social and environmental issues
2. Student / teacher exchange programs
3. University linkages

and FURTHER

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THAT in considering the above factors, it is necessary to compare not only the similarities, but the potential for these similarities to provide mutual benefit within the existing scope and limitations of the program.

- H. THAT no more than one Sister City and one Friendship affiliation be established with any one country, except in exceptional circumstances.
- I. THAT any potential Sister City relationships only be explored once mutual interest has been established between Darwin City Council and the municipal authority of the complementary city.

## **DISCUSSION**

Council receives numerous requests to establish Sister City relationships with cities throughout the world. A careful approach to growing Sister City relationships is maintained to protect the integrity of the program and to ensure relationships that are formed have meaning and can be resourced and positioned to reach their potential. Council's approach to its Sister Cities program occurs in a community engagement context and seeks to maximise person to person linkages and community participation.

### **Council's Sister Cities**

Council currently has six Sister Cities: Ambon, Indonesia; Anchorage, United States of America; Dili, Timor-Leste; Haikou, China; Kalymnos, Greece and Milikapiti, Tiwi Islands. Five of Council's Sister Cities have community advisory committees. Committees comprise of community representatives, youth representatives and Elected Members. Committees meet regularly and advise on projects to be undertaken between Darwin and its Sister Cities and provide Council with vital community based linkages. Four of Council's six Sister Cities have been operational for over 20 years, with our most recent Sister City being Dili, signed in 2003. Program resourcing has also been fairly consistent, typically managed by one officer.

Since its inception, the Sister Cities program has undertaken a plethora of projects across a number of fields including the arts, education and sport to further the person-to-person linkages between Darwin and its Sister Cities. Projects completed in 2012 include;

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Anchorage and Darwin Art Exchange
- COMPOSITE: A Sister Cities Photographic Competition
- Basketball facilities for No. 3 School Tuana-Laran, Dili
- Exchange of two students and teacher from Ambon, as well as
- Kalymnos stall at Glenti

The Sister Cities program engages with a wide range of external partners including State and Federal Government Departments, Non Government Organisations and

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Schools, as well as internal stakeholders such as the Libraries and Waste Management and Infrastructure Sections in delivering project outcomes.

Additionally Council has two Friendship cities, Honolulu, United States of America and Galapagos, Ecuador. In February 2012 Council agreed to the establishment of Friendship Links with Tralee, Ireland and Dongfang, PR of China. For a number of reasons, these relationships are yet to be formalised. Friendship links are less formal agreements with less administrative and financial expectation. Based on Friendship Link status, no projects have been entered into between Darwin and its Friendship Cities.

Council receives numerous requests from cities and towns seeking to establish friendship and/or sister city agreements with Darwin through the signing of a Deed of Acknowledgement, a Memorandum of Understanding or a formal sister city relationship agreement. Council currently hosts eight relationships with varying degrees of activity and resources five community committees. On average each year Council receives four to five inbound delegations, participates in two to three outbound delegations, hosts or participates in eight to twelve events and delivers approximately ten to twelve projects.

In view of the number of relationships Council has established, the current allocation of resources and the sizable number of projects in progress, the establishment of additional relationships requires careful consideration.

The following section reviews each request and provides an assessment of the potential relationship against Sister Cities selection criteria.

### **Horsham, Australia**

#### **Background**

In March 2012, Council received a written request to establish an ongoing relationship with the Horsham Rural City Council. The request indicated that a Motion of Notice had been passed by Horsham Rural City Council to put mechanisms in place to form a Sister City relationship with Darwin, Northern Territory.

Horsham Rural City Council Councillors, staff and Wimmera members of the Darwin Defenders visited Darwin for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin Commemoration in February 2012. The request came out of this visit as Horsham Rural City Council saw an opportunity to collaborate with City of Darwin and become a part of the annual events undertaken to commemorate the day that war came to Australia.

The Darwin Defenders is a not for profit association that aims to commemorate the efforts of the service people and civilians who defended the Top End and raise awareness about this significant part of Australia's history. Their membership

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consists of civilians and veteran that were in northern Australia during World War 2 as well as family members and interested persons.

Requests to establish Sister City relationships with Australian cities are difficult to assess against the selection criteria. The mission of the Sister Cities program is to increase international understanding and promote international communication and exchange. When a city that has requested a relationship has the same language and culture as that of Darwin, they score poorly against the selection criteria. Additionally, Darwin currently has a Sister City relationship with an Australian town, therefore only a Friendship relationship could be considered with Horsham in accordance with Council's Sister Cities Policy (City of Darwin Policy 053 – Sister Cities).

### **Summary of Assessment against Selection Criteria**

A detailed analysis of the relationship against set criteria can be found in **Attachment A: Assessment Against Sister Cities Selection Criteria.**

- There is potential for increased military tourism between Darwin and Horsham based on the shared military history and links with the Darwin Defenders.
- There is energy and enthusiasm from the Horsham community to expand their involvement with Bombing of Darwin commemoration activities and events.
- Opportunities for broad based activities, trade and investment and projects of mutual interest other than those relating to Bombing of Darwin are limited.

### **Conclusion**

The relationship request from Horsham Rural City Council does not align with the Sister Cities and International Relations program of City of Darwin, as such its assessment against the selection criteria is poor. This does not detract from the fact that it would be beneficial to maintain a relationship with Horsham Rural City Council.

As the Bombing of Darwin continues to experience increased national significance, Council would welcome involvement from other interested parties in further promotion of this national day of significance. A Sister Cities relationship would not effectively facilitate Horsham's request to be involved with Bombing of Darwin commemorations.

A relationship with Horsham would focus on the shared military history relating to the Darwin Defenders and Bombing of Darwin Commemorations. There would be opportunity for their involvement in informing and promoting Bombing of Darwin events and activities. Additionally, visitors in either way would be warmly received and connected with associated networks in each host city.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council support in principal the establishment of a ongoing relationship with Horsham Rural City Council, Victoria based on shared military history, the Darwin Defenders and the Bombing of Darwin commemorations.

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## **Launceston, Australia**

### **Background**

Council received a written request from Mr Robert Dusting in July 2012 to establish a Sister City relationship between Launceston, Tasmania and Darwin, Northern Territory. The request for a relationship was not formally presented by Launceston City Council, however they applauded the enthusiasm of Mr Dusting and were keen to support initiatives driven by community members that had benefits for the wider community.

Council currently has an established relationship with Tasmania via its connection with Hobart City Council who is also a member of the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors, which provides national leadership for the effective co-ordination and representation of the special interests of the Capital Cities of the Australian States and Territories.

Similar to the request from Horsham Rural City Council, the request from Launceston scored poorly against the Sister Cities selection criteria.

### **Summary of Assessment against Selection Criteria**

A detailed analysis of the relationship against set criteria can be found in (**Attachment A: Assessment Against Sister Cities Selection Criteria**).

- There are limited existing linkages with between Darwin and Launceston that would enable the establishment of an active Sister City relationship.
- Opportunities for broad based activities, trade and investment and projects of mutual interest are limited.
- There are a small group of small business owners in Darwin and Launceston that are interested in developing tourist markets.

### **Conclusion**

The relationship request from Mr Dusting does not align with the Sister Cities and International Relations program of City of Darwin, as such its assessment against the selection criteria is poor. Whilst the request does not fit the profile of a Sister City relationship, there is merit in facilitating relationships between Darwin and Launceston.

Council can assist Mr Dusting by providing introductions to relevant tourism organisations and peak bodies in Darwin to assist with relationship building, and endeavour to furnish him with the necessary contacts to build further relationship.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council in principal support Mr Robert Dusting's endeavour to strengthen relationships between Launceston and Darwin and decline the establishment of a formal Sister City relationship.

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## **Tarpon Springs, United States of America**

### **Background**

Tarpon Springs originally requested a Sister City relationship in 2007. In January 2008, Tarpon Springs was advised that due to a current review of the Sister Cities program, no formal agreements could be entered into. Tarpon Springs were provided with further information on the process should they wish to follow it up at a later date.

In 2009, Tarpon Spring contacted Council to advise a representative would be visiting Darwin in early 2010. A meeting was arranged and a Council Officer discussed the program with the representative. Nothing further eventuated from this meeting.

In July 2012, Council again received contact from Tarpon Springs, requesting a Sister City relationship.

Council currently maintains a Sister City relationship with Anchorage, United States of America. It is one of Council's oldest Sister City relationships. In line with Council's Sister Cities policy, only a Friendship link can be considered between Darwin and Tarpon Springs.

### **Summary of Assessment against Selection Criteria**

A detailed analysis of the relationship against set criteria can be found in **Attachment A: Assessment Against Sister Cities Selection Criteria.**

- Tarpon Springs, like Darwin, has a large Greek community and is Sister Cities with Kalymnos, Greece.
- Absence of informal links means there is limited opportunity for board based activities.
- Whilst the Northern Territory is interested in developing trade and tourism with the United States, there is lack of direct sea or air links to Tarpon Springs.

### **Conclusion**

Darwin shares very little similarities with Tarpon Springs, United States of America. There are no existing informal networks or linkages, such as students exchange, that could be built upon. Trade and tourism to the United States is complicated, particularly as Tarpon Springs in not the capital of the state of Florida.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council decline the request to establish a Sister City relationship with Tarpon Springs, United States of America.

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## **Kabankalan, The Philippines**

### **Background**

The Filipino city of Kabankalan approached Council in 2005 to request establishment of a Sister Cities relationship with Darwin. The request was considered by Council who in August 2005 passed a resolution that a relationship with Kabankalan not be entered into.

In May 2011 the Mayor of Kabankalan paid a courtesy visit to the Acting Lord Mayor of Darwin, and the possibility of establishing a Friendship Link was raised. In July 2012 a letter was received from the Honorary Consulate General to the Republic of Philippines requesting Council to consider establishing a formal relationship with the city of Kabankalan. The correspondence outlined activities that has already been undertaken between the two cities and highlighted the benefit of establishing a formal relationship.

### **Summary of Assessment against Selection Criteria**

A detailed analysis of the relationship against set criteria can be found in **Attachment A: Assessment Against Sister Cities Selection Criteria.**

- In terms of location, size and demographic, Kabankalan is not the most similar city within the Philippines with which to link Darwin.
- There is a history of cooperation and collaboration between the Filipino community of Darwin and Kabankalan that covers art, culture and educational projects.
- Representatives from Kabankalan City Council continue to visit Darwin to pursue relationship agreements.
- The establishment of a formal relationship has evident support from City of Kabankalan, the Honorary Consult General and the Filipino community of Darwin.

### **Conclusion**

Whilst there is merit in establishing a formal relationship with a Filipino city, the Sister Cities program is currently at capacity and would require an increase in resources to facilitate additional relationships. There is obvious energy and commitment from the Kabankalan end towards establishing a formal relationship. A review of the Sister Cities Program will assist Council in assessing Sister City and Friendship requests.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council defer the decision on the establishment of a possible Sister City/ Friendship in the Philippines until the Sister Cities program is reviewed.

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### **Assessing Sister City Requests**

It is evident from the current Sister City requests assessed that there is limited awareness of Councils position on Sister Cities and its community engagement approach for delivering Sister City projects. In some instances stakeholders are requesting Sister City status when they are in fact requesting involvement in key projects. When such requests are assessed against the Sister Cities selection criteria, evidently they score poorly. Additionally, the volume of Sister City and Friendship requests received continues to be high. Assessment of such requests puts additional stressors on a program that is working to capacity. Once the review of the Sister Cities program has been undertaken, there will be greater clarity for assessing such requests.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council defer all Sister and Friendship City requests until the Sister Cities program has been reviewed.

### **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

In preparing this Report the following parties were consulted:

- The Department of the Chief Minister, Asian Relations
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Mr Robert Dusting
- Department of Education and Training, International
- Charles Darwin University, Office of International Services
- Launceston City Council

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

All recommendations are made in line with the City of Darwin Policy 053 – Sister Cities.

### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Each Sister City Community Committee is allocated \$4000 annually towards Committee projects. Additionally, a Council Officer provides executive support for the Committees and delivers the Sister City projects.

### **RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.



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### **COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

**HAYLEY BARICH**  
**SENIOR COMMUNITY**  
**DEVELOPMENT OFFICER -**  
**LIVEABILITY**

**FIONA RAY**  
**A/GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COMMUNITY & CULTURAL**  
**SERVICES**

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**Attachment A:** Assessment Against Sister Cities Selection Criteria

**Horsham, Australia**

<b>General:</b>	
Population and demographics (nationals of one Sister City residing in the other)	The Horsham municipality has a population of 19,278 people (2011, LGA). On average Horsham residents are slightly older, have smaller household sizes and lower incomes than Darwin residents.
Geographic location and assets (eg Port, Frontier)	Horsham is a regional city located on the Wimmera River in the Wimmera region of Victoria, Australia. Horsham is situated on the floodplain of the Wimmera River and surrounded by agricultural land. The river forms a green belt through the city. The urban area occupies approximately 14 square kilometres of land to the north and south of the river.
Ease of access	There are no direct air or rails linkages between Darwin and Horsham, travel would be via Melbourne. Horsham is 300km North/ West of Melbourne by road.
Comparison of key industries	Whilst agribusiness is one of Horsham's key industries, given the climate and landscape Horsham's agribusiness is markedly different to that of Darwin.
Existing linkages (eg student exchanges)	The Horsham Chapter of the Darwin Defenders actively commemorate the Bombing of Darwin each year as well as actively seeking involvement from Wimmera schools. For the 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, around 60 persons from Horsham went to Darwin for the commemoration.
Relevance to local community	Limited. The relevance of the Horsham to Darwin link only extends to the mutual involvement in World War Two. Whilst there has been informal relationships since then, the relationship hasn't expanded to include other areas of mutual interest.
History of relations and/or cooperation in political, economic, commercial and cultural fields	There has been an informal link between Darwin and Horsham since World War Two. Residents of Horsham have participated in Bombing of Darwin commemorations to varying degrees.

<b>Economic:</b>	
Similar economic conditions	In the Australian context, due to the differences in key industries, Darwin and Horsham have different economic conditions.
Trade and investment climates and opportunities	Darwin is promoted as the Northern Gateway and pursues trade opportunities with its northern neighbours rather than the rest of Australia.
Tourism potential's	There is potential for increased military tourism both ways based on the Bombing of Darwin and Darwin Defenders linkages.

<b>Social:</b>	
Similar social infrastructure and issues	Similar. Both cities are in a developed country and whilst there is some regional specifics to issues experienced, to a large degree there is the some social infrastructure and issues.
Opportunity for broad based activity	Limited. The key focus of this relationship would be the Darwin Defenders and their involvement with Bombing of Darwin commemorations. As Horsham is not an international city, there are limited opportunities for cross-cultural collaboration, which is a focus of the Sister Cities program.
People to people interest, energy and commitment	The Horsham Chapter of the Darwin Defenders and the Horsham Rural Council has an active interest in facilitating a relationship.

<b>Educational:</b>	
Across economic, social and environmental issues	Whilst teaching different curriculums, the education systems of Darwin and Horsham are based on the same model.
Student / teacher exchange programs	No current student or teacher exchange programs between Horsham and Darwin.
University linkages	No current reciprocal agreements between Charles Darwin University and rural Universities close to Horsham.

## Launceston, Tasmania

<b>General:</b>	
Population and demographics (nationals of one Sister City residing in the other)	In the 2011 census the population of Launceston was 79,046 which is a comparative size to Darwin.
Geographic location and assets (eg Port, Frontier)	Launceston is located in the Tamar Valley in the northern part of Tasmania. Launceston has a cool climate. Launceston, like Darwin is some distance from the Eastern sea board, therefore, both considered remote/ frontier.
Ease of access	Whilst indirect, there are flights available from Darwin to Launceston. Launceston is 199 kilometres north of Hobart.
Comparison of key industries	The two largest industries by employment in Launceston are health/ social care and retail. Together these industries total just under 30 per cent of the working population. Other key industries in terms of employment are education and training, manufacturing, accommodation and food - reflecting the importance of the tourism industry and public service.
Existing linkages (eg student exchanges)	There are currently no known linkages between Darwin and Launceston.
Relevance to local community	Limited. There is small number of small business owners in Darwin and Launceston that are interested in collaborating on tourism packages.
History of relations and/or cooperation in political, economic, commercial and cultural fields	There is a very limited history of relations between Darwin and Launceston, with no key projects to highlight. Both cities have World War Two and mining/ gold rush heritage, but with no apparent cross over.

<b>Economic:</b>	
Similar economic conditions	In the Australian context, due to the differences in key industries, Darwin and Launceston have different economic conditions.
Trade and investment climates and opportunities	Darwin is promoted as the Northern Gateway and pursues trade opportunities with its northern neighbours rather than the rest of Australia.

Tourism potential's	Limited. There is no key draw card to encourage tourists in either direction other than experiencing the extremes in climate and weather that Australia has to offer. There are a small group of small business owners in both Darwin and Launceston that are interested in collaborating on tourism packages.
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<b>Social:</b>	
Similar social infrastructure and issues	Similar. Both cities are in a developed country and whilst there is some regional specifics to issues experienced, to a large degree there is the some social infrastructure and issues.
Opportunity for broad based activity	Limited. There are no obvious project opportunities in which to link the citizens from each city. As Launceston is not an international city, there are limited opportunities for cross-cultural collaboration, which is a focus of the Sister Cities program.
People to people interest, energy and commitment	Limited. There is some interest from the Launceston end, however limited capacity from the Darwin end to facilitate such a relationship.

<b>Educational:</b>	
Across economic, social and environmental issues	Whilst teaching different curriculums, the education systems of Darwin and Launceston are based on the same model.
Student / teacher exchange programs	No current student or teacher exchange programs between Launceston and Darwin.
University linkages	Launceston is home to the northern campus of the University of Tasmania. It currently does not have linkages with Charles Darwin University.

### Tarpon Springs, United States of America

<b>General:</b>	
Population and demographics (nationals of one Sister City residing in the other)	Tarpon Springs is a city in Pinellas County, Florida, United States of America. The population was 23,484 at the 2010 census. Tarpon Springs has the highest percentage of Greek Americans of any city in the US. In 2011 there were 253 persons born in the United States of America living in Darwin (LGA, 0.3% of the population)
Geographic location and assets (eg Port, Frontier)	Pinellas County is a series of bayous feeding into the Gulf of Mexico. Florida is in the southeastern region of the US. Much of the state of Florida is situated on a peninsula between the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic Ocean and the Straits of Florida.
Ease of access	Restricted. There are sea and air links, however travel times are quite extensive. Tarpon Springs is located 460 kilometres from Miami, a transportation hub, and 357 kilometres from the state's capital, Tallahassee.
Comparison of key industries	Tourism is a key industry in Tarpon Spring, with the Sponge Docks and the sponge diving history being a key draw card.
Existing linkages (eg student exchanges)	There are no current known linkages between Darwin and Tarpon Springs other than they are both Sister Cities to Kalymnos.
Relevance to local community	Limited. Both Tarpon Springs and Darwin have a relatively large Greek community.
History of relations and/or cooperation in political, economic, commercial and cultural fields	Representatives from Tarpon Springs have approached Council on a number of occasions to establish a Sister City relationship. Tarpon Springs is also a Sister City to Kalymnos, and this has been the basis for most requests for an official Sister City link.

<b>Economic:</b>	
Similar economic conditions	The United States of America is currently experiencing economic down turn with a high level of unemployment.
Trade and investment climates and opportunities	The United States is Australia's fifth largest merchandise export market and our most important market for services.

	It is Australia's largest import source for services and second largest import source for merchandise. The United States is the largest investor in Australia. Australia is the ninth largest provider of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the United States. The United States is one of the top five source countries for visitors to Australia in terms of numbers and expenditure.
Tourism potential's	Limited. Given the distance from major cities, it would be difficult for tourists to travel between the two.

<b>Social:</b>	
Similar social infrastructure and issues	Similar. The United States of America is a developed nation with similar social infrastructure and issues.
Opportunity for broad based activity	Limited. With a lack of informal or formal relationships, as yet there are no identified opportunities for broad based activities.
People to people interest, energy and commitment	Limited. Council already facilitates a Sister City relationship with Anchorage in the United States of America.

<b>Educational:</b>	
Across economic, social and environmental issues	American culture and history is widely known throughout Australia and forms a large part of our popular culture.
Student / teacher exchange programs	There are no current student/ teacher exchange program between Tarpon Springs and Darwin.
University linkages	Charles Darwin University already has existing agreements with universities in the United States of America and presently is not seeking additional linkages in north America.

## Kabankalan, The Philippines

<b>General:</b>	
Population and demographics (nationals of one Sister City residing in the other)	Kabankalan is a small city in the Province of Negros Occidental in the Vizayas islands group in the middle of the Philippines. According to the 2010 census, it has a population of 167,666 people. It is unknown how many Australian's reside in Kabankalan, however in 2011 there were 2,191 persons born in the Philippines living in Darwin (LGA, 3.0% of the population).
Geographic location and assets (eg Port, Frontier)	Kabankalan occupies the central portion of the Southern Negros Island. It is bounded on the north by the City of Himamaylan, on the northwest by Panay Gulf, on the southwest by Municipality of Ilog and on the southeast by the Province of Negros Oriental. It is 90 kilometers away from Bacolod City and 100 kilometers from Dumaguete City and the Southern most town of Hinobaan.
Ease of access	Kabankalan is not the Provincial capital city and difficult to get to from Manila. There are no direct air or sea links with Kabankalan City. Travel to Kabankalan is via an intermediate destination such as Manila or Singapore.
Comparison of key industries	Kabankalan and Darwin have similar key industries with agriculture being prominent for both.
Existing linkages (eg student exchanges)	The Philippines is currently the largest supplier of international students to CDU, with a large portion of students undertaking the Study Migrate Program, particularly for nursing. The Philippines is a growing source of skilled workers to the Northern Territory. Additionally, there is consular representation of the Philippines in Darwin with the Honorary Consul General.
Relevance to local community	The Filipino community in Darwin is comparatively large, with the majority of Filipinos in the Territory from the Visayan region with a growing proportion from Mindanao.



History of relations and/or cooperation in political, economic, commercial and cultural fields	Kabankalan City has been seeking a formal relationship with Darwin City for at least a decade. During that time a number of representatives from Kabankalan have paid courtesy visits to the Lord Mayor and other heads of Departments in the Territory. Additionally study groups from the Kabankalan Catholic College have visited Darwin schools and athletes from Kabankalan have participated in the Arafura Games. There has also been some involvement from Kabankalan residents in the Filipino Barrio Fiesta, a cultural project organised the Filipino Australian Association of the Northern Territory.
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<b>Economic:</b>	
Similar economic conditions	Absence of robust legal frameworks, presence of corruption and institutional challenges mean that the Philippines is still considered a developing economy. Gross Domestic Product per capita is considerably lower than that of Australia (\$2737 compared to \$39699)
Trade and investment climates and opportunities	There are no direct sea or air links with Kabankalan City, increasing the difficulty of trade. The Philippines is part of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement, a trade agreement covering all sectors including goods, services, investment and intellectual property simultaneously.
Tourism potential's	Lack of a direct transport link lessens the tourism potential between Darwin and Kabankalan.

<b>Social:</b>	
Similar social infrastructure and issues	The Philippines is considered a developing country with a diverse array of ethnicities and languages. It is likely that there are some similarities but also a lot of differences between Kabankalan and Darwin's social infrastructure and issues.
Opportunity for broad based activity	There is potential to expand on the activities already undertaken between Kabankalan City, the Filipino Association of the Northern Territory and the Office of the Philippines

### Assessment Against Sister Cities Selection Criteria

	Honorary Consul General, particularly in the areas of education and culture.
People to people interest, energy and commitment	There is a large Charles Darwin University alumni group of Filipinos both in Darwin and the Philippines. The Kabankalan City Council has established a Committee for the Darwin-Kabankalan City Relationship and the Honorary Consul General is committed to supporting development of a relationship. This indicates that there is interest and support for a relationship.

<b>Educational:</b>	
Across economic, social and environmental issues	Filipinos are one of the fastest growing immigrant communities in Australia with many applying to study in Australia.
Student / teacher exchange programs	The Kabankalan Catholic College has brought groups of students to Darwin for purposes of a study tour in 2002 and 2004. Currently there are no exchange programs in operation.
University linkages	Charles Darwin University has a strong and growing cohort of international students from the Philippines with over 130 currently enrolled across a range of programs in VET and Higher Education. Charles Darwin University has memoranda of agreement with the University of Mindanao and the University of South Easter Philippines, but these are located in Davao.

**OPEN SECTION**

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Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Monday, 17 September, 2012

11      **GENERAL BUSINESS**